

Columbia landing delayed

The return to earth of the Columbia space shuttle was postponed for 24 hours because of high winds at its landing site in New Mexico. The decision was made just 39 minutes before the space craft was due to come out of orbit for reentry. The astronauts have enough food and fuel for a further 72 hours in space.

Begin wins by slim majority

Mr Menachem Begin's government appears to have survived another crisis when the Israeli Knesset approved a supplementary budget of £1,225m by 59 votes to 57.

Doubts over 16-plus exam

Uncertainty surrounding the proposed single 16-plus examination deepened when Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education, said the Government had not decided whether to replace the present dual system of O levels and CSEs.

Tory MPs back anti-strike move

Twenty Conservative MPs have declared their support for changes in the Employment Bill which would allow employers affected by strikes in their own or other companies works to suspend employees without pay.

Russians turn to China

The Russians appear to be abandoning attempts to negotiate with the Chinese over the anti-Moscow and instead are concentrating their international efforts on improving relations with China.

Parties share Salvador vote

Negotiations for a coalition government, begun in El Salvador, as early returns from Sunday's elections showed President Duarte's Christian Democrats winning 40 per cent of the vote and the extreme right-wing Arena taking 30 per cent.

DPP's inquiry on baby death

The Director of Public Prosecution is to examine the case of Dr Peter Huntington, a hospital consultant in Kent, who recently admitted causing the death of a grossly handicapped baby in 1959.

Dollar boosted

The dollar came in for a fresh boost yesterday on world money markets as trends indicated that American interest rates could move sharply upwards within the next few months.

Rugby setback

Sponsors of a plan to hold a world cup for rugby union in Britain face a stumbling block with the movement of South Africa. Twelve countries are due to take part in the tournament in 1985.

Geoff Hunt out

Geoff Hunt, the winner of the British Squash Open for the past six years, has dropped out of this year's event at Bromley because of a back injury.

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Letters: On Hillhead, from Mr K. H. Taylor, and others; seabed mining, from Mrs Elizabeth Young; black cricket, from Mr R. Archer.
Leading articles: Positive discrimination, Bangladesh.
Features, page 12
Chris Patten MP calls on Conservatives not to leave the party for the SDP; Edward Mortimer describes the plight of the Bihars in Iran; the cash crisis of the British film industry.
Fashion profile, page 10
Valerie Aggett, runner-up to the Times Businesswoman of the Year.
Obituary, page 14
Dr R. Gardiner-Hill, Mr Fazlur R. Khan.

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Alliance will end British nuclear force says Steel

By Jonathan Wills

Mr David Steel is in no doubt that under a Social Democratic/Liberal Alliance government, Britain would eventually cease to have any independent nuclear deterrent, although the Young Liberals failed to get a majority for unilateral nuclear disarmament at the Scottish Liberal Conference at the weekend.

In an interview with *The Times*, the Liberal leader made clear that for him the issue was not whether the Trident missile would be cancelled and Polaris phased out, but when.

Mr Steel admitted that the question was "slightly tricky" for the alliance, simply because the Liberal Party has always been against the independent nuclear deterrent. They had a clear, principled commitment against the deterrent, "not just an economic argument".

In fact, as reported in *The Times* on March 12, Mr Steel has stated that Polaris should be "phased out as soon as possible" and the "slightly tricky" and "not substantial" difficulty for the alliance is finding a compromise between that statement and the SDP policy of maintaining Polaris into the 1990s.

Mr Steel agreed that people were not clear where the Alliance stood on phasing out Polaris. "Nor am I", he said. "The truth is that this is a matter which we have not yet set down to discuss between ourselves and the SDP."

"We are both against Trident. We both accept that Polaris has a limited life, and therefore the only point we have to discuss is one of timing." The area of difficulty was, he believed, "not substantial". He had asked the Liberal defence panel to meet the SDP to talk about it. Over the past six months he had responded to strong pressure on disarmament within the party and from the

public by exploring the possibility of a European initiative on nuclear arms. He believed, as did his colleagues in Germany and Italy, that the European partners of Nato could do much more to influence the course of superpower disarmament.

Mr Steel had good reason to be pleased with the St Andrews conference. The nuclear debate was the only one that threatened to disturb the euphoric mood of unity created by the Hillhead, Glasgow, by-election result and Mr Ruy Jenkins's triumphant reception by the Scottish Liberals.

While not in the least resenting the publicity showered upon the SDP, Mr Steel clearly felt that it was time to remind the public of the Liberals' own distinctive radical and progressive traditions.

It was "a caricature" to suggest that the SDP was a left-of-centre party with the Liberals pulling the Social Democrats to the right. If anything it was the other way round, he said.

"On a number of issues, perhaps the Liberal Party still has a rather sharper left-of-centre cutting edge." Examples were disarmament and racial disadvantage.

Although elated by the Hillhead result, Mr Steel believed that the SDP was "mistaken in constantly relying on the academic application of swings rather than on one that exists on the ground." "Those who are basing their political expectations on that sort of exercise are fundamentally wrong", he said.

Mr Steel was prepared to put his money on no party gaining an overall majority at the next general election. In that event the alliance would be willing to support a government in office "for as long as it lasts".

Continued on back page, col 4

Trident the only way, says Nott

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent

Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, maintained in the Commons yesterday that it would be dangerous folly for Britain to abandon her nuclear role while vigorously reaffirming that the Government's overriding duty was to strive towards multilateral disarmament.

It was not necessary to be a pacifist, unilateralist or a socialist to see the essential delivery systems, each armed with multiple warheads, said the Secretary of State. On the other hand it would be an immensely dangerous and irresponsible act to tear down the present structure before a better one was firmly within our grasp.

Opening the debate on the choice of the Trident 2 (DS) missile system to succeed Polaris as the basis for maintaining a British strategic nuclear deterrent, Mr Nott told the House that a submarine-launched ballistic missile was the only effective way to ensure the credibility of that deterrent into the 21st century. The Trident DS was the most cost-effective way of ensuring this country's needs when Polaris ceased to be credible.

The Secretary of State went some way to dispel fears that involvement by

British firms in the Trident programme would be less than at first envisaged. He told MPs that an American team would visit the United Kingdom next month to brief British firms on the range of components for which they would be able to compete. It would not be possible at present to quantify the proportion of work likely to go to British companies but it was likely that in some cases it would be up to 80 per cent although elsewhere it would be only 10 per cent. Mr Nott added that the programme would provide £4,000m-worth of extra work for British industry.

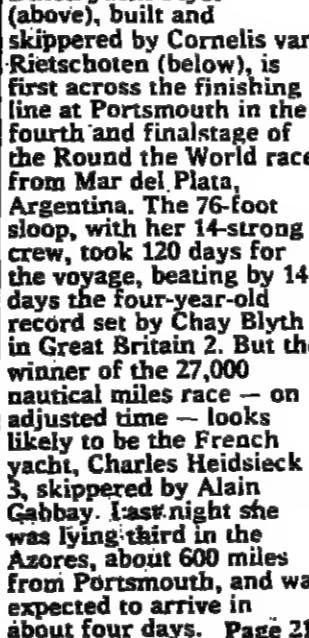
It was clear, however, that disapproval of the Government's choice of Trident went beyond the ranks of the unilateralists on the Labour benches, taking in the Social Democrats, the Liberals and a small number of malcontents even on the Conservative back benches. Indeed, while Mr Nott had little difficulty in demolishing the case against Trident put forward by Mr John Silkin, Labour's defence spokesman, he was less at ease with those who advocated alternatives to Polaris and the retention of a nuclear deterrent.

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Flyer home in record time

Dutch yacht Flyer (above), built and skippered by Cornelis van Rietschoten (below), is first across the finishing line at Portsmouth in the fourth and final stage of the Round the World race from Mar del Plata, Argentina. The 76-foot sloop, with her 14-strong crew, took 120 days for the voyage, beating by 14 days the four-year-old record set by Chay Blyth in Great Britain 2. But the winner of the 27,000 nautical miles race — on adjusted time — looks likely to be the French yacht, Charles Heidsieck 3, skippered by Alain Gabbay. Last night she was lying third in the Azores, about 600 miles from Portsmouth, and was expected to arrive in about four days. Page 21.



Carrington to speak on Falklands

By Denis Taylor

Lord Carrington is flying back to London from the EEC summit meeting in Brussels today to make a statement in the House of Lords on the crisis with Argentina over the British South Atlantic territory of South Georgia. A parallel statement will be made in the Commons.

The Foreign Secretary had originally intended to travel direct from Brussels to Israel on an official visit. He will now go via London, arriving a couple of hours later than planned.

Intensive diplomatic negotiations continued yesterday to try to find a formula capable of resolving the crisis. The dispute was sparked by the British discovery that a party of about 50 Argentinians had gone to South Georgia without official authorization and had raised the Argentine flag. The territory is a dependency of the Falkland Islands 800 miles away, which Argentina claims.

The Argentinians have a commercial contract to remove scrap from the old whaling facilities at Leith Harbour. Most of the party who arrived there on March 18, left after a British protest. The flag was also lowered.

But the British Government estimates that between six and 10 of the scrap merchants are still in South Georgia.

No official comment was

available in London yesterday about the position of several Argentine vessels. A supply ship, the Bahia Paraiso, and two missile-carrying corvettes were said on Sunday to be in the area of South Georgia. Two other Argentine naval vessels were said to have left port for the south Atlantic during the weekend.

The Ministry of Defence in London denied yesterday that the dispatch of 42 Marines to Port Stanley in the Falklands meant a "soubling" of the garrison. A spokesman said that they were a replacement for the present detachment.

Nevertheless, there will be some overlap. The relief detachment is on its way from Montevideo on the Antarctic survey vessel, the John Biscoe.

Normally, the Marines would have travelled on the Royal Navy patrol ship Endeavour, but she is off South Georgia with about 12 Marines from the Port Stanley garrison on board.

[Buenos Aires] A politician from one of Argentina's suspended political parties has called for an Argentine invasion of the Falkland Islands as a means of restoring the status of the British colony runs high (Reuter reports). Senator Luis Leon, the leader of a leftist Radical Party Faction, has told reporters: "This is necessary for the preservation of our sovereignty and (national) dignity."

Fowler refuses to raise pay offer to nurses

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

Industrial action by nurses in the health service was brought a step closer yesterday by the Government's refusal to increase its offer above 6.4 per cent.

Mr David Williams, leader of the staff side of the nurses' Whitley Council, which had led a delegation of nurses' leaders to a meeting with Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, said afterwards it was clear the Government would not increase its offer through further negotiations.

"If the Government is to be changed in its attitude, it will be changed only by industrial action, although I am not advocating it here

now," Mr Williams, assistant general secretary of the Confederation of Health Services Employees, said.

The staff side of the Whitley Council is to meet the management side next Tuesday, and if no increase in made the nurses' unions will be balloting their members over the offer and the kind of industrial action they might want to take.

Mr Fowler said the Government had recognized the position of nurses by offering them more than the 4 per cent being offered to other health service workers, and by offering them a new permanent arrangement for negotiating their pay.

£3,300 off top car in Ford cuts

By Peter Waymark, Motoring Correspondent

The Ford Motor Company is cutting prices on most of its models by an average of 4½ to 5 per cent from Thursday. Savings include £84 on the 1.3 Escort and £3,300, including additional equipment, on the Granada Ghia at the top of the range.

Mr Sam Toy, Ford's chairman, said the move had been partly prompted by public confusion over lower prices for cars in some Continental countries.

He disclosed that the number of Ford cars imported privately from Europe last had risen steeply from 70 in January to 340 in December.

Mr Toy said the price gap was causing confusion on the British market and he believed that potential customers were holding back to see what happened.

The total amount involved in Ford's price-cutting programme is about £200m. Mr Toy said it had been made possible by dealers taking lower profit margins and increased productivity and its cost should also be contained by extra sales.

The Cortina range is not affected by the cuts and prices will go up by 4 per cent on Thursday.

□ The Ford cuts, while not leading to a big price war in the car showrooms, could signal a sustained period of stability in the United Kingdom market (Edward Townsend writes).

British manufacturers, particularly BL, are hoping that if they can peg their domestic prices, European producers will raise theirs to more realistic levels and narrow the gap between British and Continental prices.

French attitude on EEC cash hardens

From Ian Murray and Peter Norman, Brussels, March 29

France hardened its position against a settlement of the long-running argument over Britain's EEC budget contribution during the three-year package with further two-year stage negotiated in 1984 which is suggested in the formula.

Mr Thatcher insisted that there should be a fair deal on a suitable scale even though Britain did expect to continue to be a modest net contributor in any settlement.

M. Mitterand then made the only comment given by the other leaders, saying that in the French view the formula could not be accepted as it stood, even though he said, enigmatically, France accepted the methodology.

In the main discussion on economic and social policy in the Community, Mrs Thatcher had emphasized the importance of what she termed "restraint in consumption and increased investment".

Even so, she said that not all investment was seeking hundreds of thousands of pounds had been her business. Britain being a steel, car and tinplate industry.

The meeting in in which Wilfried Martens, Prime Minister, and current President of the Council, had to tackle the economic and social problems facing the Communists.

Gloomy party, page 6

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NOT A SINGLE LEAF IS FOREIGN

Joseph adds to doubts over single 16-plus exam

From Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent, Exeter

The long-awaited announcement yesterday by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, on the proposed new single system of examining pupils aged 16-plus served only to deepen the uncertainty surrounding the future of the test.

Sir Keith, addressing the annual conference of the Secondary Heads' Association in Exeter, said that the Government had not yet decided whether to replace the present dual system of O-level and CSE examinations, and so could not set a target date for the introduction of the single system.

Sir Keith's statement seems to go back on the announcement made two years ago by Mr. Mark Carls, his predecessor, who said that the Government had decided to replace the present dual system by a single system of examining at 16-plus, and called for suitable national criteria for the new system to be drawn up by the examining board.

Sir Keith claimed yesterday, however, that the Government's view had always been that the new system would be acceptable only if it could be shown that national criteria for syllabus and assessment procedures could be developed to the satisfaction of the Government.

The draft criteria had not yet been prepared, let alone submitted to ministers for approval, he said. "We are therefore not yet in a

position to consider setting a target date for the introduction of a single system.

The decision whether to move in this direction or to continue with an improved dual system can be taken only when this preparatory work has been completed and appraised.

Sir Keith went on to lay down the minimum requirements that any new system must meet. It must "do justice" to all pupils in the top 50 per cent of the ability range for which the present O-level and CSE examinations were designed; set standards at least equal to those of the existing examinations; be intelligible to parents and employers; and be demonstrably more efficient than present arrangements.

The task of developing national criteria to secure those objectives was a formidable one, he said. It had never been tried in England and Wales before, nor indeed so far as he was aware, anywhere else.

It was simply too early to judge whether a single system of examining would be feasible. "We are not prepared to make a leap in the dark. We must be sure of the ground on which our feet will land," he said.

He promised that the Government would take a final decision on the new system's future in Parliament, and that it ran its full length. If approval was given, the first pupils could be

sitting the new examinations by the end of the decade.

If the Government decided against the new system, all the work done on developing national criteria would still be invaluable in reforming the very real deficiencies in the existing dual system.

Mr. Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said Sir Keith's announcement would cause bitter disappointment in the profession "because it reads like a formula for further interminable delays and uncertainty".

Sir Keith seemed to be going back on what his two predecessors had approved.

Several others at yesterday's conference echoed Mr. Jarvis's views. However, Mr. Geoffrey Goodall, president of the association, said that although he was sorry that no date had been fixed, he did not think it was the end of the 16-plus examination.

Call for plan to combat violence

In the same speech Sir Keith called for closer links between the schools and the police to tackle community violence and disorder (the Press Association reports).

He said that a "climate of disorder" could seep into schools from outside, and he added that Lord Scarman had pointed out that police assistance in educating children in the fundamentals of an ordered society could be of great value.



An abundance of Brunel: Mr John Doubleday putting the finishing touches in London to two bronze sculptures of Isambard Kingdom Brunel, the railway and marine engineer (right). One will be erected at Paddington Station, the other in Bristol where Brunel's Clifton suspension bridge spans the Avon Gorge.

Paroled forger's £82,000 spree

A man released on parole from a 10-year jail sentence for 1,000 fraud offences went on an 18-month, £82,000 forgery spree.

He not only faked legitimately issued cheques, but also printed National Westminster Bank counterfeits, and passed them to shops and businesses all over southern England.

Yesterday at the Inner London Crown Court Robert Bradshaw, aged 46, admitted more than 1,500 theft charges.

Mr. John Nutting, for the prosecution, said more than £82,000 was stolen from branches of Barclays, National Westminster and National Giro between March 1979 and June, 1981, under various aliases.

At one stage, Mr. Nutting told the court, Bradshaw invested in a printing set, bought some paper resembling that used for National Westminster cheques, and printed his own. Leading high street shops never suspected their validity.

An officer from Scotland Yard's intelligence branch was assigned to work solely on the Bradshaw case after the banks reported the huge losses.

Mr. Nutting said Bradshaw

first opened an account with a £2 deposit at the National Giro Bank. As soon as he received the cash card he went to a different branch every other day, withdrawing the £50 maximum each time.

He added: "The method employed by him to persuade the banks that he was a person of substance, who was not only in a position to withdraw money but deposit it as well, was to make deposits of £200."

"But then the only business he did was to overdraw as much money as possible before the banks issued a circular stopping any further withdrawals. He would then adopt another alias, open a different account and start all over again."

Detective Inspector Michael Paton of Scotland Yard's cheque squad said Bradshaw had 11 convictions since 1954, involving 46 cases of fraud, criminal deception and dishonesty.

He had spent nearly 14 years in a South African jail for cheque frauds the was deported.

Yesterday Judge Cox sentenced Bradshaw to four more years imprisonment, to run concurrent with his present 10-year term.

Co-operative boycott urged on shooters

By Hugh Clayton Environment Correspondent

Mr John Farr, chairman of the British Shooting Sports Council, appealed yesterday to all users of firearms for recreation to boycott Co-operative shops and the Co-operative Bank.

Mr Farr, Conservative MP for Harborough, said that he had called an emergency meeting of the council to debate action by the million recreational shooters in Britain against the Co-operative movement, the largest private owner of farmland in Britain, which had decided to ban hunting from all its 38,000 acres from June.

"I have tabled a motion for the meeting urging the instantaneous withdrawal of all patronage of Co-operative establishments," Mr Farr said at Westminster. "Shooting people are not prepared to stand idly by and watch hunting being picked off."

Mr. Pat Gouldsbury, secretary of the council, said that although the Co-operative movement would continue to allow shooting rights, shooters nevertheless wanted to show solidarity with hunters.

The Co-operative Whole-sale Society has been got at

by the League Against Cruel Sports through the socialists," Mr Gouldsbury said. "It has not withdrawn shooting rights at the moment. It gets rent from shooting, and not from hunting. If they aim for hunting now, they will probably go for shooting next."

The hunting ban was decided after months of lobbying by an internal pressure group called Co-operators Against Bloodsports which was financed by the league. The league may finance a similar group inside the Social Democratic Liberal Alliance.

Both sides of the hunting argument are lobbying hard for one of their most important battles, which will be decided tomorrow when county councillors in Leicestershire debate motions for and against a ban on hunting over the 10,000 acres owned by the county.

Some of the most famous hunts in Britain, including the Quorn and the Pychley, would be affected by such a ban, which will also lose part of its country through the Co-operative ban.

Author defends his best-selling novel

By John Withersow

Mr Donald Thomas, author of *The White Hotel*, has refused claims that he did not give adequate acknowledgement for using an eyewitness account of the Nazi massacre in his best-selling novel.

In a letter to be published in *The Times Literary Supplement* this week, Mr Thomas says his novel openly acknowledges use of the late Anatoli Kuznetsov's memoirs, which was published in translation here in 1970.

His response was made to a letter in *the TLS* last week from Mr David Kendrick, a London antique dealer, who said he discovered almost word for word similarities between sections of *The White Hotel* and *Babi Yar*. Mr Kendrick pointed out that the Penguin edition of the book, which has sold 250,000 copies this year, made no small acknowledgment to Kuznetsov's work while giving more prominent credit to the influence of Sigmund Freud.

Mr Kendrick questioned whether the author of a work of fiction should "choose as his proper subject events which are not only outside his own experience but also beyond his own resources of imaginative recreation?" and talks of "a superficially reworked version of the historical account".

Mr Thomas says that he not only used adequate prominence in the book to Mr Kuznetsov's work but also emphasized his indebtedness in several interviews.

Mr Thomas uses an eye witness account of a German massacre of Jews in the Ukraine which was published in *Babi Yar*, putting it into the world of his narrator.

He said yesterday: "I could have changed the order of the words but that would have been untruthful. The only person who could speak was the witness."

He added that he was irritated by the criticism and said he should try to look at the book as "an organic whole." Nobody else had complained of the similarities, and he felt the acknowledgement was adequate.

Others in the literary world felt inclined to agree. It was pointed out that the hardback edition of *The White Hotel* published the acknowledgement to Mr Kuznetsov in larger type than the Penguin edition.

Mr Thomas also pointed out in his letter that the United States publishers of *Babi Yar* are re-issuing the book and quoting its connection with *The White Hotel* in advertisements. One million copies of *The White Hotel* have been printed in the United States and another reprint had already been ordered.

Mr Burnett commented: "There is no question of a breach of copyright. All the author has done is use a perfectly reasonable literary design."

Mr Burnett said that the book was a work of fiction and that the author should not be held responsible for the similarities between sections of *The White Hotel* and *Babi Yar*.

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Alliance split on student union poll

From Ian Bradley, Blackpool

A serious split between Liberals and Social Democrats has emerged on the eve of the National Union of Students' conference in Blackpool.

Delegates to the conference from the two Alliance parties are divided about which candidate they should support today in the election for the union's new president.

While the Liberals are backing Mr Douglas Herd, the Left Alliance candidate, many of the SDP students support Mr Neil Stewart, Labour candidate, his main rival.

The Liberal/SDP Alliance is putting up a candidate for only one of the five main posts. For the rest it is giving at least tacit support to the Left Alliance, the loose grouping of Communists, Liberals and others, which has dominated the union for the past six years.

If, as is expected, the presidency and most of the executive places go to Labour Party candidates this week, it will mark the end of the era of non-party rule for British students.

Significantly in his opening speech to the conference last night, Mr David Aaronovitch, the retiring president, gave a warning not to align the union with any one political party.

Winging their way back to former glory

Peregrine falcons have regained their former population levels, (Tony Samstag writes). The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds said yesterday that the comeback marks a quiet triumph of goodwill and common sense over thoughtlessness and stupidity.

The 500 breeding pairs in Britain are thought to be nearly half the European total. The species was persecuted during the Second World War to protect carrier pigeons. By the 1960s the widespread use of organochlorine pesticides had reduced numbers to fewer than 250 pairs. Illegal falconers and egg collectors also took their toll.

Severe restrictions in the use of organochlorines, which interferes with reproduction in a wide range of species, have been in effect since the early 1970s.

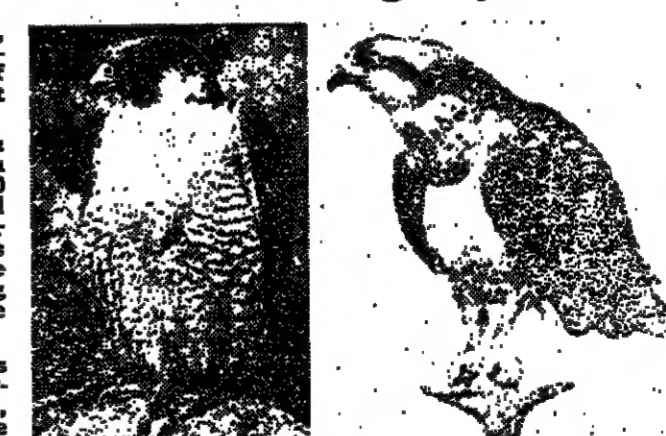
The authoritative British Birds magazine will report in its April issue that in 1980 two other raptors, the red kite and the osprey, had their greatest breeding successes of the century. Overall, there are now 211 species breeding regularly in Britain, 32 more than in 1900.

Collared doves, Cetti's warblers, little ringed plovers, great crested grebes, Lapland buntings, purple sandpipers, marsh harriers, redwings and avocets have also increased in recent years.

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The peregrine falcon (left) and the osprey which are making a triumphant comeback in Britain

NEWS IN SUMMARY

MP seeks test-tube birth study

Mr Leo Abse, Labour MP for Pontypool, is to call today for the establishment of a government-appointed committee to look into the legal, moral and social implications of "in vitro" fertilisation (Our Health Services Correspondent writes).

Mr Abse, who will be speaking in an adjournment debate in the Commons, wants the committee to include doctors, lawyers, child psychiatrists and churchmen, and for it to consider what legislation might be necessary to deal with the latest developments in human reproduction.

The membership of a working party set up by the Council for Science and Society to look at "in vitro" fertilisation was announced yesterday.

It will be chaired by Professor G. R. Thomson, professor of medicine at the University of London, and will include Sir John Peel, former president of the British Medical Association, and Sir John Peel, former president of the Royal College of Physicians. The committee will also include a representative of the National Council on Human Fertilisation and Embology, a director of research at the University of Dundee, and a representative of the population studies, Exeter University.

Damages for Ripper victim

Mrs Maureen Long, who survived an attack by Peter Sutcliffe, the Yorkshire Ripper, yesterday asked the High Court in Leeds, for damages for personal injuries.

Mrs Long, aged 46, of Buttershaw, Bradford, did not appear in court. Mr Colin Grazin, her solicitor, said: "I shall be making efforts to agree an amount of damages with Mr Sutcliffe's solicitors. Sutcliffe is serving concurrent life sentences for 13 murders and seven attempted murders."

Earlier this month, Mrs Irene MacDonald, mother of Jayne MacDonald, aged 15, Sutcliffe's youngest victim, was awarded damages of £6,722. Another survivor, Miss Marilyn Moore, aged 29, of Leeds, was given £25,000 damages against him.

Teacher wins sex bias action

A married woman teacher who was rejected for a teacher's job after a barrage of questions about her private life, was awarded compensation by an industrial tribunal in Liverpool yesterday.

Miss Helen Gates, aged 34, who was claimed to be better qualified and more experienced than male applicants for the post at Woodvale special school, Wirral, had accused Wirral Borough Council of sex discrimination. The job went to a man.

The tribunal was told that a male councillor at her interview "severely distressed" her by seeking intimate details about her husband.

Skeleton identified

A skeleton found in woods near Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, was identified yesterday as that of Miss Brenda Mary Brown, a nurse, who had been missing since 1971. She came from Chatteris, Cambridgeshire.

Sentencing review is urged

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Ten years after the introduction of community service orders, more work is still needed to realize their potential, the Howard League says in a report published today.

The Howard League, a former researcher at the Home Office and now head of sociology and social work at Ulster Polytechnic, says in the report that there are still differences in their application. He cites two neighbouring courts where one views orders as an alternative to prison and the other as sentences in their own right.

The orders, which he says have the potential to be the most promising penal development for years, should be imposed as an alternative to prison, committing the offender to between 40 and 240 hours of supervised work. Dr Pease calls for two types of service in future: up to 100 hours in place of prison.

He suggests they could be used as a "fine on time" where offender has little money. The orders should be imaginative with sufficient finance and staff to run them.

Over the past 10 years the orders have reduced the prison population by 2,000. Dr Pease says there is no evidence that they prevent further offences but in 1980 only 9 per cent of orders were terminated because the offender had committed fresh crimes.

No category of offender appears to be a particular risk.

Boats ban urged

The Lake District special planning board decided yesterday to tell the North-west Water Authority that it opposes allowing the use of boats on Thirlmere reservoir, Cumbria, when it is opened to the public soon.

COURT TOLD OF 100 mph CRASH

From Our Correspondent, Guildford

A commercial artist told a court yesterday how he drove at 100mph in his Corvette Stingray side-slip with a nutty-charged Porsche seconds before a fatal crash.

It happened after he tried to out-accelerate the Porsche as they pulled away from a roundabout going towards a flower on the A316 at Haslemere, west London. But he denied throwing down the gauntlet to spark off a race that ended in the death of Mr Donald Ranger, the driver of the Porsche.

Mr Ricardo di Tommaso, aged 39, of Mulberry Trees, Shepperton, Surrey, was giving evidence at Kingston Crown Court, where he denied causing the death by reckless driving of Mr Ranger, head of the Heron Motor Company, of the Avenue, Sunbury, Surrey.

Mr Di Tommaso, admitting that American cars were one of his great interests, said that he had seen the red Porsche approaching the roundabout. All he wanted to do was to out-accelerate it as they pulled away.

The Porsche came very close behind him, he moved into the middle lane and the Porsche came up beside him. "We were side-by-side doing about 100mph. I then realised it was a bit silly and immediately decelerated and the Porsche went past me doing at least 120mph."

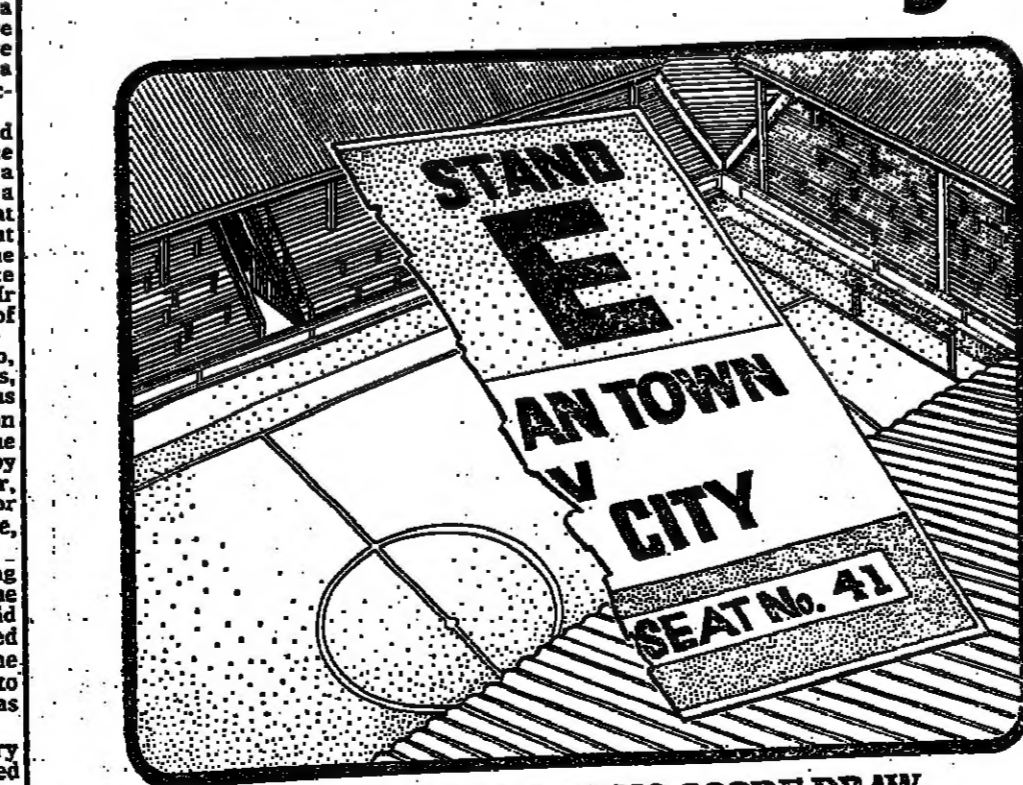
"There were cars in front of it and I saw it swerve to the left and strike the inside barrier, which was a concrete wall."

He said the Porsche careered across the road and bounced off the central barrier before hitting another car. He applied his brakes but he hit the rear of the Porsche.

Mr Di Tommaso denied that there was any question of racing.

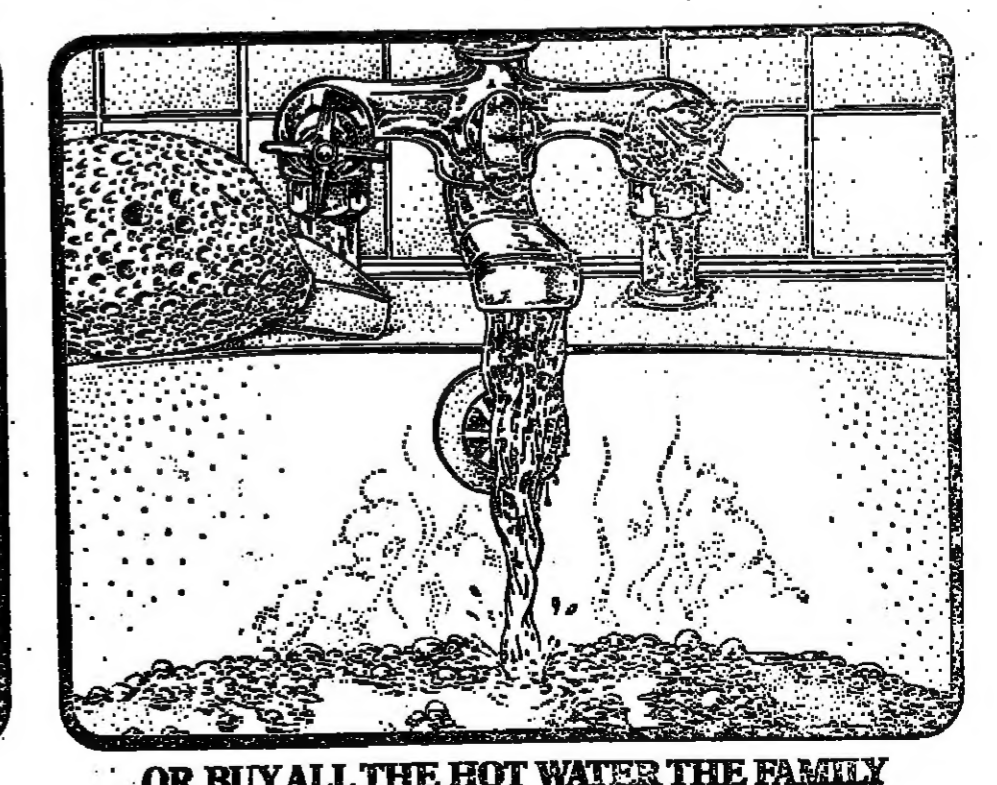
The trial was adjourned.

What can you do for £2?



SIT THROUGH HALF A NO-SCORE DRAW.

The age of cheap energy is over — probably forever! But as the above example shows, gas is still remarkably good value for money. Although gas prices have risen considerably over the last few years, average earnings and pensions have gone up even



OR BUY ALL THE HOT WATER THE FAMILY NEEDS FOR A WEEK WITH GAS.

more — so most people spend a smaller proportion of their income on a given amount of gas than they did ten years ago. Simple energy conservation measures in the home can help to make gas even better value. Why not pick up a copy of our free leaflet 'Save Gas, Save Money' at your local gas showroom?

MAKE THE MOST OF GOOD VALUE GAS.

Based on cost of standard seat for London First Division match. Gas prices from British Gas 'Guide to fuel running costs', October 1981, adjusted to allow for April 1982 price increase, and including standing charges.

BRITISH GAS

Ex-nurse admits forcing girl to drink vinegar

From Arthur Osman, Wolverhampton

A former superintendent nurse at a home for mentally handicapped children in Walsall, West Midlands, admitted to forcing a girl to drink vinegar and salt, and on other occasions had shut a boy in a barrel and picked-up another by his hair.

Mrs Susan Elizabeth Wilkes, who is married and has a child, aged three, pleaded guilty to eight charges of ill-treating children at the Megan-du Solsson home for the handicapped between 1975 and 1980.

She was also accused of making a girl stand in the rain and hitting a boy with a slipper. She was released on bail for social reports to be prepared, and will appear before the same court next Monday.

Mrs Wilkes, aged 30, of Bridge Street, Clayhanger, Staffordshire, denied 10 charges of ill-treatment and the court will be allowed to see whether those will be allowed to lie on the file. The Crown did not open its case against her yesterday.

She was followed into the dock by Mr Bernard Joseph Blundell, aged 61, the former director of the home for the handicapped, near Cannock, Staffordshire. He pleaded guilty to ill-treating a girl aged 15 in January 1979 by pushing her nose into urine.

Court told of 'pot hidden in chocolates'

From Our Correspondent Newport, Isle of Wight

A packet of chocolates smuggled into Albany maximum security prison, Isle of Wight, would have more than sweetened the palate of Samuel Rommel, a prisoner charged 45. For when the police officers stripped off the wrappers four of the "chocolates" were found to be cannabis resin, it was said at Isle of Wight Crown Court yesterday.

Mr Robert Tennyson, aged 33, of Bramsholme Estate, Hull, and John Stark, aged 38, of Walton Street, West Hull, and Rommel pleaded not guilty to two charges of conspiring to smuggle drugs into Albany jail.

Mr Stephen Parish, for the prosecution, said that nine days after Mr Stark was released from prison he returned to the Isle of Wight with his friend Mr Tennyson, and sent him into Albany with a visitor's pass.

But while Mr Tennyson was still in the waiting room two detectives came in and said they had reason to believe he had brought in drugs. Mr Tennyson panicked and ran into the lavatory, the court was told. The police took from him a block of vegetable matter containing cannabis, some tablets and LSD and a bag of chocolate, it was said.

The hearing continues today.



Civic souvenirs: Sir Horace Cutler with some of his favourite possessions. He was presented with the spade when he opened a building in Wembley.

Sir Horace hands over...

Sir Horace Cutler, who until the rise of Mr Kenneth Livingstone was probably the best known representative of local government in London, is stepping down as leader of the Greater London Council's Conservatives (David Walker writes).

His successor, due to take over at the council meeting on May 11, is likely to be chosen from among Mr Richard Brew, the present deputy leader; Mr Alan Greengross, one of the Conservatives' most thoughtful spokesmen on transport; and Mr George Tremlett, who has

made a special study of housing matters. Other contenders include Mr Robert Viggers, a long-serving councillor who has previously stood against Sir Horace.

Sir Horace, who will be 70 this year, led the GLC from 1977 until Labour took control last May. During those years his goatee beard, bow tie and flamboyant projection of such schemes as holding the Olympic Games on a reclaimed site in the city's dockland area established an identity denied to most municipal leaders.

The arrival at County Hall of Mr Livingstone left Sir Horace unsure of what tactics to follow in opposition; the young left-winger did not play the games of rancour enjoyed by Sir Horace and former Labour leaders of his own age.

Sir Horace will continue to represent the Harrow, West, division until the 1985 GLC elections. "There is plenty of steam in me yet," he said yesterday. "My self-imposed task is to fight the takeover by extreme left which is going on in town halls all over the country."

Social worker denies hurling riot bombs

A social worker for the London Borough of Southwark hurried two petrol bombs at police cordons during the height of street rioting in Brixton last April, it was alleged at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Mr Nicholas Purnell, for the prosecution, said that Adrian Kenny was identified by the police as the bomber because he stood out as one of the only a few white people causing disturbances in the area.

Mr Kenny, aged 26, of Effra Parade, Brixton, pleaded not guilty to throwing an explosive substance with intent to burn or do serious bodily harm to police.

In interviews with the police, Kenny said he was the victim of mistaken identity, the court was told. He said he was standing at his front gate comforting an elderly woman neighbour and trying to prevent young blacks smashing his windows when he was struck on the head. "There was a lot of confusion and I do not remember anything else."

But Mr Purnell told the jury that tests showed petrol and diesel fuel on his shoes and jacket.

The court was told that the police manned two cordons in Raiton Road, Brixton, on April 11. Gangs of black youths armed with axes, lumps of wood and iron bars, launched attacks on them throwing sticks and stones. Three cars were set on fire, two were overturned and the third pushed towards a police line.

Mr Kenny was alleged to have emerged from behind one of the burning vehicles and to have thrown a petrol bomb which flew over the first police cordon and shattered in flames against an officers' shield behind. Minutes later he threw a second petrol bomb, Mr Purnell alleged.

Two police officers dropped their shields and "snatched" Mr Kenny from the crowd. The hearing continues.

Solicitor's case for Lords

A solicitor and his wife yesterday were given leave to appeal to the Lords against a ruling that a dispute over their eviction of a family from a cottage under a "buy-back" clause should be heard at a High Court trial.

On November 23 last year, the Court of Appeal decided that the issue of whether Mr and Mrs Richard Langdale had taken unfair advantage of Mr Tom Danby when he

sold him the cottage at Dale Road, Elloughton, near Hull, should be tried in full, in spite of an earlier ruling that the Langdales were entitled to possession.

Lord Diplock, sitting with Lord Fraser of Tullybelton and Lord Bridge of Harwich, said yesterday that the Lords would grant the Langdales leave to appeal because the case raised a "matter of some importance".

Hang glider pilot aims at Westminster

By Ronald Faux

Fair winds and the Civil Aviation Authority willing, Mr Rory MacCarthy hopes to arrive at the Houses of Parliament next week as no one before him ever has.

With the aim of making an attempt for charity on the world altitude record for a hang glider, Mr MacCarthy intends to take off from the Thames behind a power boat, reach 2,500ft in his glider just short of Tower Bridge, release from his tow-cable and glide upstream to touch down in the water on the far side of Westminster Bridge. "A rather cold and mucky landing but it is for a good cause," he says.

It will be a simple feat compared with the altitude record attempt planned to take place above Leicester in July. Mr MacCarthy, strapped to his hang glider and wearing a pressurized suit and oxygen equipment, will be lifted to a height of 36,000ft beneath Innovation, probably the world's biggest balloon.

"At about 36,000ft I will release and go into an almighty plummet. There are one or two inherent dangers," Mr MacCarthy modestly declared. The first was from the temperatures of 50°F below zero increased to 80°F by the chill factor of air rushing across the body. Such cold could make the metal struts of the machine brittle.

The record of 32,000ft was set from a balloon above Mexico four years ago. "The pilot did not get away unscathed. I think he lost some fingers through frostbite," Mr MacCarthy said.

Suspended below him on way to his record altitude will be another two-man hang glider flown by Mr John Moody and Mr Gregory Rogala, who intend to set an altitude record for a two-man machine.

His efforts to set records have been dogged by ill luck. Last April he was rescued from the summit of Mont Blanc, the highest point in Europe, from which he and a companion intended to take off in a two-man glider.

"The conditions were impossible for a two-man flight so my partner volunteered to go down and let me go solo. Then the weather clamped down and I was trapped there for 28 hours."

Mr Donald Cameron, the pilot of Innovation, said there would be no difficulty in lifting the hang gliders to their launch points.

Lords to hear crown appeal

The prosecution in the case of Mr Newton Rose, a black Londoner whose murder conviction was quashed by the Court of Appeal earlier this month, yesterday was given leave to appeal to the Lords on the ground that a matter of "general public importance" had been raised. Mr Rose, aged 21, a decorator of Olinda Road, Stoke Newington, north London, was sentenced to life imprisonment at the Central Criminal Court in December for the stabbing of Mr Tony Donnelly. He was found guilty by a 10 to 2 majority verdict.

Three of his friends who had been sentenced to six months' jail for attempting to pervert the course of justice by backing his alibi, also had their convictions quashed by the Court of Appeal.

The Court of Appeal ruled that the judge's action was a grave material irregularity.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Peace camp women defy council

Five Newbury district councillors met women from the Greenham Common peace camp in Berkshire yesterday in a last attempt to avoid costly court action to evict them (our Newbury Correspondent writes).

But the women refused to undertake to leave. The council said later that the authority would proceed with obtaining a court order.

A High Court judge is expected to hear the council's petition around Easter. The women have been there since last September in protest at the decision to install United States nuclear cruise missiles at Greenham next year.

Residents say the camp is an eyesore and the council says the women are living illegally on common land.

Appeal against 'sus' law ruling

The House of Lords is to hear a Metropolitan Police appeal against a High Court ruling that the council have no authority to hear further prosecutions under the controversial "sus" laws.

The offence of being a "suspected person loitering with intent" was abolished under the Criminal Attempts Act last August 27. But prosecutions of those charged before that date have continued.

In a test case in the Queen's Bench Divisional Court in February, it was ruled that the law had ceased to have effect. Yesterday the police were granted leave to appeal against the ruling.

Turkey workers end strike

A six-week strike by 1,200 workers at the Bernard Matthews turkey processing factories in Norfolk and Suffolk ended yesterday. They agreed to accept a £6.50 a week pay rise — just 83p more than the company's initial offer.

The workers originally asked for a 32 per cent increase. Last night Mr George Barnard, of the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers, said: "We will be back around the negotiations table in nine months."

Regular flights to Plymouth

Brymon Airways yesterday started a service between Heathrow and Plymouth. It will operate twice a day throughout the week, with a single fare of £31.

The service is aimed at business travellers and flying time is about 45 minutes. The airline is owned by Mr William Bryce, a New Zealander.

Paintings remand

Paul Andrew Williams, aged 18, of no fixed address, was remanded in Custody, until April 5, at Bow Street Court, London, yesterday on two charges of causing criminal damage to paintings by Turner and Claude at the National Gallery on Saturday.

Potholers find body

A man's badly decomposed body has been found by potholers at the foot of an old lead mine near Penryn, Cornwall, North Wales.

What a Ford dealer is afraid to tell you about the New Vauxhall Cavalier

HE WON'T TELL YOU ABOUT RESALE VALUE

We've put a number of 6 month old Cavaliers up for auction to discover just how well they hold their value. And we've learned that used Cavaliers are currently fetching up to 90.2% of the current retail price — streets ahead of the competition.

HE WON'T TELL YOU ABOUT THE ADVANTAGES OF FRONT-WHEEL DRIVE

Cortinas don't have front-wheel drive. Cavaliers do. And front-wheel drive gives extra comfort and space, as well

as superb handling and road-holding, especially in adverse weather conditions.

HE WON'T TELL YOU THAT CAVALIERS COME IN HATCHBACK AS WELL AS SALOON FORMAT

Who ever heard of a hatchback Cortina?

WILL HE TELL YOU ABOUT FUEL ECONOMY?

Not likely. Because the New Cavalier's revolutionary aero-

dynamic design, together with its new 1300S or 1600S engine, gives it truly exceptional fuel economy.

So there's not much a Ford dealer will be prepared to tell you about a Cavalier. On the other hand, your Vauxhall-Opel dealer has all the information you need.

And he'll talk to you about a test drive any time you like.

CAVALIER



TEST DRIVE ONE AT YOUR FRIENDLY VAUXHALL-OPEL DEALER.

DOT FUEL CONSUMPTION TESTS. MPG (LITRES/100KM). CAVALIER 1300S SIMULATED URBAN DRIVING 28.8 (9.8). CONSTANT 56 MPH 42.8 (6.6). CONSTANT 75 MPH 32.1 (8.8). CAVALIER 1600S 29.4 (9.6). 46.3 (6.1). 35.3 (8.0).

Anglican-Catholic Commission report

The limits of pastoral power

This is the text of the sections headed "Jurisdiction" and "Infallibility" of the Final Report of the Anglican-Catholic Commission, published today.

Jurisdiction in the Church may be defined as the authority of power (potestas) necessary for the effective fulfilment of office and this fact determines its exercise and limits. It varies according to the specific functions of the episcopate concerned. The jurisdictions associated with different levels of episcopate (eg of primates, metropolitan and diocesan bishops) are not in all respects identical.

The use of the same juridical terms does not mean that exactly the same authority is attributed to all those exercising episcopate at different levels. Where a metropolitan has jurisdiction in his province this jurisdiction is not merely the exercise in a broader context of that exercised by a bishop in his diocese: it is determined by the specific functions which he is required to discharge in relation to his fellow bishops.

Each bishop is entrusted with this pastoral authority needed for the exercise of his office. This authority is both required and limited by the bishop's task of teaching the faith through the proclamation and explanation of the word of God, of providing for the administration of the sacraments in his diocese and of maintaining his church in holiness and truth. Hence decisions taken by the bishop in performing his task have an authority which the faithful in his diocese have a duty to accept. This authority of the bishop, usually called jurisdiction, involves the responsibility for making and implementing the decisions that are required by his office for the sake of the *communio*. It is not the arbitrary power of one man over the freedom of others, but a necessity if the bishop is to serve his flock as its shepherd. So too, within the universal *communio* and the collegiality of the bishops, the universal primate exercises the jurisdiction necessary for the fulfilment of his functions, the chief of which is to serve the faith and unity of the whole Church.

Difficulties have arisen from the attribution of jurisdiction to ordinary and immediate jurisdiction to the bishop of Rome as universal primate. Misunderstanding of these technical terms has aggravated the difficulties. The jurisdiction of the bishop of Rome as universal primate is called ordinary and immediate (ie mediated by no one) jurisdiction: it is inherent in his office; it is called universal simply because it must enable him to serve the unity and harmony of the *communio* as a whole and in each of its parts.

The attribution of such jurisdiction to the bishop of Rome is a source of anxiety to Anglicans who fear, for example, that he could usurp the rights of a metropolitan in his province or of a bishop in his diocese; that a centralized authority might always understand local conditions or respect legitimate cultural diversity; that rightful freedom of conscience, thought and action could be impeded.

The universal primate should exercise, and be seen to exercise, his ministry not in isolation but in collegial association with his brother bishops. This in no way reduces his own responsibility on occasion to speak and act for the whole Church. Concern for the universal Church is intrinsic to all episcopal office; a diocesan bishop is helped to make this concern a reality by the universal jurisdiction of the universal primate. But the universal primate is not the source from which diocesan bishops derive their authority, nor does his authority underpin that of the metropolitan or diocesan bishop. Primacy is not an autocratic power over the Church but a service in and to the Church which is a communion of faith and charity of local churches.

Although the scope of universal jurisdiction cannot be precisely defined canonically, there

are moral limits to its exercise: they derive from the nature of the Church and of the universal primate's pastoral office. By virtue of his jurisdiction, given for the building up of the Church, the universal primate has the right in special cases to intervene in the affairs of a diocese and to receive appeals from the decision of diocesan bishop. It is because the universal primate, in collegial association with his fellow bishops, has the task of safeguarding the faith and unity of the universal Church that the diocesan bishop is subject to his authority.

The purpose of the universal primate's jurisdiction is to enable him to further catholicity as well as unity and to foster and draw together the riches of the diverse traditions of the churches. Collegial and primate responsibility for preserving the distinctive life of the local churches involves a proper respect for their customs and traditions, provided these do not contradict the faith or disrupt communion. The search for unity and concern for catholicity must not be divorced.

Even though these principles concerning the nature of jurisdiction be accepted as in line with the understanding which Anglicans and Roman Catholics share with regard to the Church's structure, there remain specific questions about the practical application of the word of God, of providing for the administration of the sacraments in his diocese and of maintaining his church in holiness and truth. Hence decisions taken by the bishop in performing his task have an authority which the faithful in his diocese have a duty to accept. This authority of the bishop, usually called jurisdiction, involves the responsibility for making and implementing the decisions that are required by his office for the sake of the *communio*. It is not the arbitrary power of one man over the freedom of others, but a necessity if the bishop is to serve his flock as its shepherd. So too, within the universal *communio* and the collegiality of the bishops, the universal primate exercises the jurisdiction necessary for the fulfilment of his functions, the chief of which is to serve the faith and unity of the whole Church.

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The Church in all its members is involved in such a definition which clarifies and enriches their grasp on the truth. Their active reflection upon the definition is its turn to clarify its significance. Moreover, although it is not through reception by the people of God that a definition first acquires authority, the assent of the faithful is the ultimate indication that the Church's authoritative decision in a matter of faith has been truly preserved from error by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit who maintains the Church in the truth will bring its members to receive the definition as true and to assimilate it if what has been declared genuinely expounds the revelation.

The Church exercises teaching authority through various instruments and agencies at various levels. When matters of faith are at stake decisions may be made by the Church in universal councils; we are agreed that these are authoritative. We have also recognized the need in a united Church for a universal primate who, presiding over the *communio*, can speak with authority in the name of the Church. Through both these agencies the Church can make a decisive judgment in matters of faith, and so exclude error. The purpose of this service cannot be added to the content of revelation, but is to recall and emphasize some important truth; to expose error; to draw out implications not sufficiently recognized; and to show how the Christian faith applies to contemporary issues. These statements would be intended to articulate, elucidate or define matters of faith which the community believes at least implicitly. The welfare of the *communio* does not require that all the statements of those who speak authoritatively on behalf of the Church should be considered permanent expressions of the truth. But situations may occur where serious divisions of opinion on crucial issues of pastoral urgency call for a more definitive judgment. Any such statement would be intended as an expression of the mind of the Church, understood not only in the context of its time and place but also in the light of the Church's historic mission and tradition. All such definitions are provoked by specific historical situations and are always made in the framework of the understanding and framework of their age. But in

the continuing life of the Church they retain a lasting significance if they are safeguarding the substance of the faith. The Church's teaching authority is a service to which the faithful look for guidance especially in times of uncertainty; but the assurance of the truthfulness of its teaching rests ultimately rather upon its fidelity to the Gospel than upon the character of office of the person by whom it is expressed. The Church's teaching is proclaimed because it is true; it is not true simply because it has been proclaimed. The value of such authoritative proclamation lies in the guidance that it gives to the faithful. However, neither general councils nor universal primates are invariably preserved from error even in official declarations.

The Church's judgment is normally given through synodal decision, but at times a primate acting in communion with his fellow bishops may articulate the decision even apart from a synod. Although responsibility for preserving the truth of the Church's teaching belongs to the whole Church, it may be exercised on its behalf by a universal primate. The exercise of authority in the Church need not have the effect of stifling the freedom of the Spirit to inspire other agencies and individuals. In fact there have been times in the history of the Church when both

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councils and universal primates have protected legitimate positions which have been under attack.

A service of preserving the Church from error has been performed by the bishop of Rome as universal primate both within and outside the synodal process. The judgment of Leo I, for example, in his letter received by the Council of Chalcedon, helped to maintain a balanced view of the two natures in Christ. This does not mean that other bishops are restricted to a merely consultative role, nor that every statement of the bishop of Rome instantly solves the immediate problem or decides the matter at issue for ever. To be a decisive statement of the truth, the judgment of the bishop of Rome must satisfy rigorous conditions. He must speak explicitly as the *communio*; he must be under duress from external pressures; he must have sought to discover the mind of his fellow bishops and of the Church as a whole; and with a clear intention to bring binding decision upon a matter of faith or morals. Some of these conditions were laid down by the First Vatican Council. When it is plain that all these conditions have been fulfilled, Roman Catholics conclude that the judgment is preserved from error and the responsibility of the Church to maintain the faith is thereby secured.

This approach is illustrated by the reaction of many Anglicans to the Marian definitions, which are the only examples of such dogmas promulgated by the bishop of Rome apart from a synod since the separation of our two communions. While some Roman Catholics can agree in much of the truth that these two dogmas are designed to affirm. We agree that it can be true that the Incarnation of God and man, Jesus Christ, and reject any interpretation of the role of Mary which obscures this affirmation. We agree that the dogma of the Immaculate Conception is inseparably linked with the doctrine of Christ and of the Church's mission to bring the grace and unique vocation of Mary, Mother of God Incarnate (Theotokos), in observing her festivals and in according her the honor of saints. We agree that she was prepared by divine grace to be the mother of our Redeemer, by the power of the Holy Spirit and received into glory. We further agree in recognizing in Mary a model of holiness, of faith and of love for all Christians. We accept that it is possible to regard her as a prophetic figure of the Church of God before as well as after the coming of Christ. The dogmas of the Immaculate Conception and the Assumption raise a special problem for those Anglicans who do not consider that the Marian definitions given by these dogmas are sufficiently supported by scripture. For many Anglicans the teaching of the Church is not considered independent of a council, is not recommended by the fact that through it these Marian doctrines are proclaimed. The Church's teaching is proclaimed because it is true; it is not true simply because it has been proclaimed. The value of such authoritative proclamation lies in the guidance that it gives to the faithful. However, neither general councils nor universal primates are invariably preserved from error even in official declarations.

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EEC leaders listening to the anniversary speeches yesterday included Mr Dries Van Agt, the Dutch Prime Minister (left), Signor Giovanni Spadolini, the Italian Prime Minister, Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, Mr Anker Jørgensen, the Danish Prime Minister, President Mitterrand of France, King Baudouin of the Belgians and Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor.

Borrowed time built in at top hotel

From Peter Hazellhurst
Kyoto, March 29

Guests of the Kyoto Century Hotel in central Japan can expect to enjoy an extra three weeks of life if the world is destroyed by nuclear war.

Reflecting the management's pessimistic view of the future, the hotel has been constructed over a massive air-tight nuclear shelter which can withstand the blast of an atom bomb and protect 3,000 guests from radioactive fallout for three weeks.

The hotel's new facility can be sealed off with fireproof, airtight doors and is equipped with special pumps and filters which eliminate radioactive material from the shelter's airlocks.

The shelter, which is on two floors of the lower basement of the 252-room hotel in the centre of Kyoto City, has been designed to withstand the direct overhead blast of the type of atom bomb that destroyed Hiroshima.

The engineers who constructed the shelter claim its walls and doors can also withstand the blast of a one-megaton bomb if the centre of the explosion is 1.6 miles from the hotel.

Mr Ryuzo Kutani, one of the managers, said: "This is the first hotel in the world to construct a modern nuclear shelter of this proportion. The shelter was built in line with our policy of providing our guests with the best service and facilities."

"The shelter was built because our president, Mr Ryuzo Hachi, is pessimistic about the future. He is convinced that a nuclear war will break out."

The fireproof doors and walls are made of material which will not buckle or twist even if the external temperature reaches 1,000°C. The managers claim the shelter will be constantly supplied with food, drinking water, medicine and fuel to accommodate as many as 3,000 people for two to three weeks.

The underground shelter has been fitted with 76 lavatories, wash basins and rows of bunk beds are to be installed along the walls. The shelter's electric power is provided by an emergency generator. Oil tanks contain enough fuel to operate the generator for 23 days.

Entrances are controlled by airlocks. A spokesman for the hotel said: "The airlocks are designed to prevent the fall-out from polluting the air in the shelter. When persons who are contaminated by radioactive material or other harmful substances enter the shelter they first themselves under special showers in the airlocks."

The management hoped the facilities would not be used as shelter against a nuclear bomb. But it was necessary to construct a modern nuclear shelter in the event of such an incident at Three Mile Island. We are obliged to provide the facility because there has been an increase in the number of nuclear power stations in Japan. There is the possibility that one of them could be damaged by an earthquake."

Mugabe security chief 'led Pretoria spy ring'

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, March 29

A senior Zimbabwe security officer who has left the country and three of his subordinates who have been in detention since December were part of a South African spy ring, a government minister said here.

Mr Geoffrey Price, as director of close security in the Central Intelligence Organization (CIO), was responsible for the safety of Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister and of his Cabinet, was declared "an enemy of the state". Last week under a section of the emergency powers regulations which provided for the seizure of his property.

In an interview with The Herald newspaper today Mr Emmerson Munungagwa, the Minister of State in the Prime Minister's office, said

EEC holds a gloomy and late 25th birthday party

From Ian Murray, Brussels, March 29

It was a gloomy enough twenty-fifth birthday party and held in time honoured EEC fashion, a few days late. Mrs Margaret Thatcher, dressed all in deepest black, would not have looked out of place at a state funeral. The nine other heads of government, with serious, lined faces, sat in a solemn row beside her and listened to the some too cheerful celebration speeches from five of Europe's leading men.

This "academic session" which opened proceedings of the European summit was a time to reflect on where the Community had travelled together over the past 25 years and a chance to exhort members to much greater efforts for the future.

Mr Gaston Thorn, President of the Commission, gave a Cassandra-like warning that "Europe's achievement is under serious threat from nationalist and protectionist tendencies and from the short view being taken by member-states as the crisis grinds on."

Gloomily, he went on: "The crisis is widening the economic and social gap between the member-states to alarming proportions. It is sapping solidarity and undermining internal cohesion."

This was a not very indirect reference to the quarrel over the size of Britain's budget contribution, a subject not on the agenda for the summit but which is due to be fought over next weekend when the foreign ministers of the Ten meet in Luxembourg to try once again to resolve the question.

The main theme of the summit is to be study of the economic and social problems of the Community. Here, Mr Thorn felt "the European idea is losing popularity as a feeling grows that Europe serves no purpose, that it can do nothing to relieve the economic crisis or relieve international tension."

"More generally, I am afraid that commitment to Europe and the political will to complete the construction of Europe, are losing much of their stamina."

For the Commission Presi-



Mrs Thatcher: Dressed appropriately for a state funeral

dent the solution lay in honouring the 25-year-old treaties and giving back to the Commission the authority which had been eroded down the years. The obvious solution for him was majority rule inside the Council.

"The job of politicians," he told his audience of senior politicians, "is to make the necessary possible. If they fail history will take its course without them, if not against them."

Mr Piet Dankert, President of the European Parliament, had less faith in the relevance of the treaties than Mr Thorn. "In the absence of political motivation among the Europeans and without prospects for the future, they cannot be worth much more than the paper on which they are written," he said.

"The system has ground to a halt and it has therefore become still more difficult to keep the actual development of the Community in step with the objective need for such development."

For the Parliament's President the solution lay in giving greater role to the Parliament. "The Community is too important to run the risk of rejection by its citizens," he said.

Mr Josse Mertens de Wilmars, President of the Court of Justice, took an appropriately more detached view. He urged his audience

"rather to differ in unity than to be similar in disunity." He emphasized that Community law was one of the preeminent instruments in bringing about the "peaceful change" of European integration.

King Baudouin of the Belgians felt "pride and frustration" when he viewed the unity of the Community. But he emphasized the need for unity. "The independence of Europe is extremely relative," he said. "Its dependence is much more apparent. The important question is how to make ourselves interdependent in relation to the other major partners in the world."

He went on: "I am convinced we can delay no longer. It is time for the heads of state and of government of the ten member-countries of the Community to provide a decisive impetus for strengthening of the bonds which unite using the face of these grave realities."

It was left to Mr Leo Tindemans, President of the Council and Belgian Foreign Minister, to try to inject some of the 25-year-old idealism into the occasion. He blamed the need to opt for a Europe of economists and technicians at the outset on the loss of the common European touch.

"While our thoughts focused on solidarity, fraternity and unity, the interest of the peoples of Europe had to be aroused, any motivated, and their enthusiasm fired by telling them of the rules governing the grading of eggs or size."

Hopes in Europe too often disappointed through the tardiness of its achievements, he said, but the European citizen had become used to Europe's growing pains. What had been achieved was a priceless heritage which had to be defended unless through ignorance the citizens called them into question.

The Community had to make itself felt more and more by an absence of formalities. "During the years' which lie ahead," he said, "Europe must be seen to flower and show a human face."

\$200m AID APPEAL FOR SAHEL

From John Earle
Rome, March 29

Mr Edouard Saouma, Director-General of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, today appealed to rich countries to contribute towards a \$200m (£112m) reserve system of coarse grains for the Sahel region of West Africa, which has been repeatedly subject to drought in the last decade. Total reserves of 465,000 tonnes would be necessary, Mr Saouma told a meeting of potential donor nations from the West and from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries. A study prepared by the FAO recommended that local grains should be used wherever possible.

Mr Price, a former chief superintendent in the Zimbabwe police, was in command of three white members of the CIO who were arrested on New Year's eve for allegedly being illegally in possession of weapons.

Sources said today that shortly after the arrests Mr Price applied for and was granted leave for a brief trip to Britain to visit a relative.

Mr Munungagwa said Mr Price had gone to Britain, but was now in South Africa. "When he knew we were on the right trail he fled."



Checking the exports

It was an early start for Mr Warren Cooper, the New Zealand Foreign Minister (centre) when he inspected carcasses of New Zealand lamb at Smithfield meat market yesterday (Simon Scott Plummer writes).

Mr Cooper, who took up his present post in December as well as that of Overseas Trade Minister — is on a familiarization tour of Europe. After his visit to the market he had breakfast in a pub near by.

New Zealand exports

245,500 tonnes a year of sheep and goat meat to the EEC under a voluntary restraint agreement. Of this, about 180,000 tonnes is expected to be sold to Britain this year, which marks the centenary of the first shipment of refrigerated cargo from New Zealand to this country.

That event was described by The Times as "a triumph over physical difficulties" and even unimaginable a very few years ago.

BATTERED BABY - FATHER ADMITS 'I WAS DRUNK'

Rioters were only twelve years old

Provision for severely handicapped children

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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THE VOLUNTARY CHILD CARE CHARITY

Coalition sought after split Salvador vote

From Paul Kilman, San Salvador, March 29

With all the signs pointing towards an inconclusive outcome to the elections here, El Salvador's political leaders today began a series of contacts designed to assess the possibility of forming a coalition government.

The contacts attracted the active support of the United States embassy here which has let it be known that it hopes that a future government here will be as broadly-based as possible and also committed to at least the principle of negotiations with left-wing guerrillas who launched a series of attacks in an attempt to disrupt Sunday's election.

The guerrillas, meanwhile, continued to make their presence felt by staging a number of attacks in the capital last night and by virtually overrunning a key provincial capital in the southeast of the country.

As results continued to dribble in, early returns put the Christian Democrats of President Jose Napoleon Duarte in first place and the extreme right-wing Nationalist Republican Alliance (Arena), headed by Major Roberto D'Aubuisson, in second place but with neither of them looking like securing an overall majority.

With approximately a fifth of the votes counted, the Christian Democrats had just over 40 per cent and Arena about 30 per cent. Running third was the National Conciliation Party (PCN), a conservative grouping which served as the official party of the dictatorship for 18 years until the 1979 coup. The PCN looked like finally picking up just over 16 per cent of the vote.

In fourth position was Accion Democratica, a party supporting free enterprise and headed by a former dean of the law school at El Salvador's National University, Dr Rene Fortin Magaña.

Despite the clear ideological differences the PCN and Democratic Action, the Christian Democrats leaders today were anxiously arguing that this did not mean they could not work together in a coalition government.

"The worst people in the PCN have deserted it for Arena while Democratic Action is committed to representational democracy as much as we are," said Señor Julio Rey Pineda, who is ranked third in the party's hierarchy.

Major D'Aubuisson, however, had also been looking at the election arithmetic and said that a more natural ruling alliance would be between Arena and the other two right-wing parties, pointing out, however, did not exclude the possibility of sharing power in a team which included Señor Duarte.

US denies plans to invade Nicaragua

By Our Foreign Staff

By Our Foreign Staff
The United States had no plans to invade Nicaragua or use proxy forces to do so, a senior State Department official said in a BBC film shown on Panorama last night.

Mr Stephen Bosworth, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Inter-American Affairs, said that the United States Government was not engaged in an operation to destabilize the Central American republic.

In an interview with Jeremy Paxman, he said that the Sandinist Administration was "clearly a government of revolution". The Nicaraguans were fast putting themselves in a position where they were more powerful than any combination of forces that could be brought against them by their neighbours.

This put them in an inescapable position to expect subversion.

Señor Alfonso Robelo, leader of the opposition Nicaraguan Democratic

Movement, said in an interview filmed there that there must be about 5,000 or 6,000 Cubans in Nicaragua. Most of them had key roles in the Government. "It's similar to the role of the Russians in Poland," he said.

This claim was vehemently denied by Father Miguel d'Escoto, the Nicaraguan Foreign Minister. He described the allegation as a "terrific lie". "If you were to add them all up it would not come up to 2,000," he said.

There were "very, very few" Russians. "We have diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union. There are personnel here at the embassy. We also have on loan from the Soviet Union a couple of helicopters," he said.

Congress thwarted in India

From Kuldip Nayar
Delhi, March 29

The ruling Congress (I) Party has failed to get a two-thirds majority in the Rajya Sabha, the Upper House of the Indian Parliament, in the biennial elections ending today.

This comes as an relief to the opposition, which fears an amendment to the constitution for the introduction of the presidential system in place of a parliamentary government which India has been following since independence.

Under the constitution an amendment has to have a two-thirds majority in both houses of parliament.

Congress lost a few seats because of cross-voting, when some of its members voted for opposition candidates in the secret ballot. This is disconcerting for the party which is already facing an incipient revolt from the followers of Mr Sanjay Gandhi, who were addressed yesterday by his widow, Mrs Maneka Gandhi, despite Mrs Indira Gandhi's opposition.

Out of 19 upper house opposition seats have been won by the Communists in West Bengal. There was no poll in Kerala or Assam because both legislatures have been dissolved pending new elections.

LAWYERS HOLD UP CHILD CASE

From Christopher Thomas
New York, March 29

Prosecution lawyers are refusing to go ahead with trial of a six-year-old Florida girl accused of aggravated battery, a charge that usually carries a heavy prison sentence for convicted adults.

The mothers of Nancy Jo Burch and the seven-year-old Shirley Nichols, whom she struck with a stick have failed to reach an agreement out of court.

The state prosecutor, Mr Eugene Whitworth, said that the best interests of the child had been forgotten and Judge R. A. Green said yesterday that he was upset that the case had arisen.

At first the parents of the child who was struck pushed for full criminal proceedings but how, for reasons not fully explained, Nancy Jo's parents want the hearing to go ahead. Mr Alan Wilhite, the defence lawyer said only that the parents believed in the jury system. "I am trying to protect a sweet little girl," he said.

Previously, the defence had sought dismissal of the case on the grounds that under common law a child aged under seven is not capable of committing a criminal offence.

Judge Green described the case as a symptom of something much larger.

Canada Bill receives assent

By George Clark

Exactly 115 years after the British North America Act, leading to Canada's first constitution, was signed by Queen Victoria, the Canada Bill giving complete constitutional-making powers to Canada received the Royal Assent yesterday.

The Queen's approval was notified to the House of Lords by Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor. A party of officials from Canada House were in the gallery to watch

the final stage of a controversial constitutional process which began in Canada two years ago.

Until four months ago, when Canadian provincial governments were at loggerheads with Mr Pierre Trudeau and the federal government, it appeared that the dispute would be transferred to Westminster. But when agreement was reached with nine of the ten provincial governments this was accepted by most politicians at Westminster as reflecting



East Germany fetes Jaruzelski

Berlin, March 29. — East Germany today welcomed General Jaruzelski, Poland's military ruler, in a huge display of support for his martial law policies.

Almost the entire ruling politburo, including Herr Erich Honecker, the Head of State (seen above with the general), Herr Willi Stoph, the Prime Minister, General Heinz Hoffmann, the Defence Minister and Herr Harry Tisch, the trade union leader, greeted General Jaruzelski at the airport.

Thousands of police and plain clothes state security men guarded the 18-mile route through the city, which was lined by flag-waving factory workers and schoolchildren.

General Jaruzelski visited Moscow at the beginning of this month and is due to go to Prague soon in what appears to be a tour to show

his allies that Poland is safely back in the communist fold.

Red banners, displayed in quantities unseen in East Berlin for some years, carried slogans declaring "By the side of the USSR for the preservation of peace" and "together for anti-imperialist solidarity".

During talks in the party Central Committee building, Herr Honecker told General Jaruzelski that the imposition of martial law in Poland had his "full understanding".

Exactly the phrase used by president Brezhnev when the general visited Moscow.

Herr Honecker said that martial law had been necessary in view of the acute danger to socialism posed by counter-revolution.

East Germany would continue as before to support all true Polish patriots and communists in their difficult

struggle to strengthen the communist order in the country.

Warsaw: An influential Polish editor called today for the legal abolition of the Solidarity free trade union, arguing that the movement must be rebuilt.

Mr Zdzislaw Morawski wrote in *Zycie Warszawy* that he believed it would be politically, technically and organizationally impossible to recreate the unions as they were before martial law was imposed in December.

"The only realistic and politically honest thing to do would be legally to dissolve all the trade unions and begin establishing the movement from scratch," he said.

Mr Franciszek Kaim, the former Deputy Prime Minister, was jailed in Warsaw today for one year and fined about £1,900 on corruption charges. — Reuter.

Finance Minister criticizes Mauroy

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, March 29

M Jacques Delors, the French Minister of Finance, for months has been preaching moderation and realism, with little or no effect on his more political colleagues in the Government who indulge in an excess of promises and demagoguery.

He now considers that both the recent speculation against the franc and the sharp warning given to the left in the local elections have proved him right and given him a better chance of being heard. Twice in the last few days he has made tart remarks which amount to saying that the time for day dreaming is over and it is necessary to face facts.

He told a press briefing last Friday: "Now that the essential aspect of reforms has been achieved, at least in their first stage, it is necessary to enforce them correctly in a spirit of dialogue".

"The managers must take over the first place," M Delors said, in an obvious reference to himself and an equally obvious dig at the politicians, primarily M Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, who chose to give a sharply political twist to the local elections, with hardly convincing results. This is what the Finance Minister refers to euphemistically as the "degradation of the psychological climate" during the local election campaign.

He also deplored the fact that France had lapsed into what he called "an excessive taste for decrees". This was an indirect criticism of the large instalment of social decrees issued by the Government in the last three months some of which, like the reduction in the working week and retirement at 60, were ill-conceived and ill-prepared.

After the excessive spell of government by decree, M Delors wants a revival of the process of collective bargaining and the achievement of a consensus which has always been his pet objective. The Government's social measures must lead to Frenchmen "working more collectively" to reduce unemployment, otherwise "France will not succeed in the operation of work sharing" launched by the government.

A fifth week's holiday must not be an additional week (irrespective of the present length of people's holidays, which is how the Government decree tends to be interpreted by the unions) but a fifth week for everyone. "Otherwise there can be no talk of solidarity."

"One cannot have the butter and the money to buy the butter," M Delors remarked. It is one of his favourite aphorisms.

He said there could be no concessions about winding up the system of guaranteed resources instituted by the previous Government, which ensured 70 per cent of their earnings to those who voluntarily went into early retirement.

The Finance Minister said he agreed with the President of the CNPF, the employers' federation, that the costs of firms must not be allowed to increase any further. He was referring to a warning by the federation that firms run the risk of being "the castaways of a costly social policy."

He called on the Government to introduce a pause of 12 to 18 months in the place of reforms in order to enable firms to recover their breath. He estimated at some 80,000 francs (£7,200m) the increased burden of the Government's social measures.

Prisoners of conscience



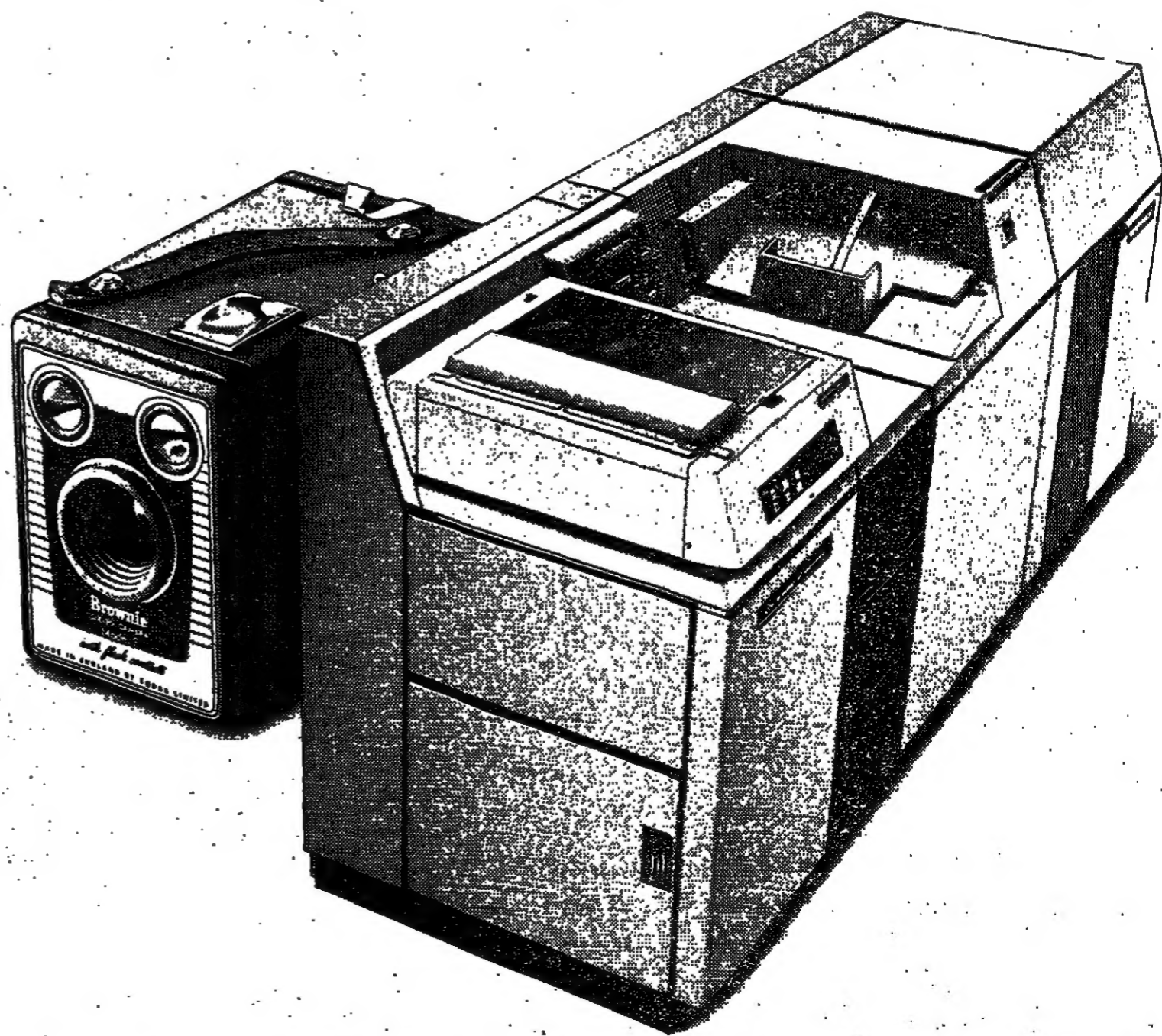
Czechoslovakia: Jan Litomisky

By Caroline Moorehead

An agronomist active in the country's human rights movement is now serving a three-year prison sentence for "subversion". Mr Jan Litomisky signed Charter 77 (the human rights document) in 1977 and in 1979 joined VONS, the Committee for the Defence of the Unjustly Persecuted. Throughout 1980 he was continually harassed by the authorities, being interrogated and having his house searched. On October 17, 1981 Mr Litomisky was arrested and brought to trial before the regional court of Ceske Budejovice. The charges against him were based largely on his activities in VONS. He was accused of having collected and disseminated anti-state materials and of damaging Czechoslovakia by his contacts abroad.

The indictment mentioned his "negative attitude" towards the Soviet Union, and conduct "not conforming to the social norm" — based on his possession of a copy of the late Andrei Amalrik's *Will the USSR survive until 1984?* and the testimony of two witnesses that he had not been suitably dressed at a graduation party.

Mr Litomisky's appeal was rejected by the Supreme Court in Prague in January.



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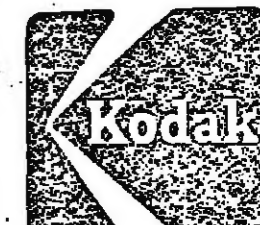
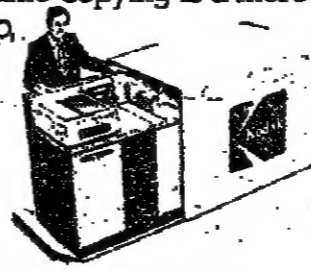
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Property threats raise tension in West Bank

From Our Own Correspondent, Jerusalem, March 29

Israel has given a warning to the Jordanians that if they carry out their threat to seize property in Jordan belonging to members of the newly formed West Bank village leagues, Israel will do the same to the property of Jordanians in the territory conquered in 1967.

The warning signals a further increase in tension between the two countries after the recent statement from Amman that Palestinian village league members who did not resign within a month would be sentenced to death as traitors.

A senior Israeli official pointed out that King Hussein was among a number of leading Jordanians with substantial properties in the occupied West Bank.

The official, who claimed that Israel took a grave view of the Jordanian threat added: "We must remind the Jordanian leaders that they have property in Judea and Samaria and we will not stand by if village league members are divested of their property."

Since the recent West Bank unrest nearly two weeks ago, Amman radio has been broadcasting a number of fiery, patriotic Palestinian songs in its normal entertainment programmes which are beamed throughout the West Bank.

Today there was another clash between Israeli settlers

an Arab demonstrators in the West Bank when a Palestinian youth was shot and seriously wounded after a crowd attacked the two Israeli cars on the main road, south of Bethlehem. The Arabs had been erecting barricades across the road.

According to Israel radio the Jewish civilian who shot the Palestinian with his pistol was a leading official in a Palestinian group of Jewish settlements, nearby, known as the Etzion Block.

The radio said that the man's car had been destroyed during the throwing of stones and blazing tyres. The incident is the latest in a growing number of Arab attacks on Israeli civilian vehicles.

Lafor, a curfew was clamped on the Arab village of Hadar where the attack took place. By early tonight three other West Bank villages were under curfew after another day of Arab unrest and three more were under army blockade with none of the Palestinian residents being allowed to enter or leave.

In East Jerusalem, all journalists from two Arabic newspapers — *Al Fajr* and *Al Shaab* — staged a 24-hour protest strike against the Israeli Army's repeated refusal to allow the heavily censored papers to circulate anywhere in the West Bank.

Carrington visit seen as rebuff to PLO

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, March 29

Mr David Kimche, director-general of Israel's Foreign Ministry, said today that Israel had never feared that Lord Carrington might cancel this week's official visit as a result of Arab pressure caused by the security crisis in the occupied West Bank.

He also disclosed that Israel would be proposing that the British Government should introduce parliamentary legislation to outlaw companies from participating in the Arab boycott of Israel, similar to laws which have already been introduced in France and America.

Mr Kimche made clear that Israel would be flatly rejecting the thrust of Britain's policy that there should be mutual recognition between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, using the latest wave of West Bank violence to back up its arguments.

In an interview with *The Times*, on the eve of the Foreign Secretary's controversial 48-hour visit to Jerusalem, Mr Kimche said: "We were convinced that once Lord Carrington said that he would come, he would not be put off by the instigations and provocations of the PLO. We had no doubts and we are happy he is coming."

He added that the Israelis Government had not yet decided how to react publicly to one of the most contentious elements in the visit — a plan by a senior Foreign Office official to hold talks with Mr Karim Khalaf and Mr Bassam Shaka, two of the elected Palestinian mayors dismissed from their West



Lord Carrington: An open policy



Menachem Begin: Spate of personal attacks

Bank posts last week by Israel. Lord Carrington will not be crossing to the annexed section of the city for private meetings with Britain's consul-general.

During today's interview Mr Kimche said: "We welcome the visit greatly. We have always held feelings of friendship for Great Britain, and we are sorry that there has been a period recently in which there appeared to be differences of opinion between us. We hope very much for a closer relationship in the future."

He cited Britain's enthusiastic support for the EEC's Venice declaration as he main cause for the recent deterioration in Israeli-British relations. "We hope that this time we shall hear from Lord Carrington a more forthcoming attitude regarding the Camp David peace process."

Asked to explain Israel's belief that such a change in Britain's Middle East policy might be imminent, Mr Kimche said: "First of all, British troops are in the Sinai peace-keeping force and, secondly, the mere fact that Lord Carrington is coming to visit us. We hope that there has been a reassessment regarding the Camp David process."

Lord Carrington will be the first British Foreign Secretary to pay an official visit to Israel since 1978. He comes at a time when relations have been strained by a number of factors ranging from personal attacks against him by Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, to the embarrassing absence of any senior British representative at last year's funeral of Moshe Dayan, the Israeli war hero.

It is understood that dur-

ing this week's talks Israel has no intention of raising the latest cause of diplomatic embarrassment — the arrest earlier this month of Miss Rhona Ritchie, the First Secretary at the British Embassy, on a charge under the Official Secrets Act. She has now been released in England on £10,000 bail.

Mr Kimche explained today that senior Israeli ministers will spell out to Lord Carrington their conviction that the latest wave of West Bank violence was deliberately provoked by the PLO to coincide with the scheduled withdrawal of Israel from Sinai.

They will argue that the PLO was forced to instigate the disturbances as a result of its weakened state caused by the continuing ceasefire along Israel's northern border and renewed Jordanian interest threatening its position in the West Bank.

Mr Kimche claimed that Israel had no real choice but to dismiss Mr Ibrahim Tawil, the Mayor of El-Bireh, once he had refused openly to cooperate with the civil administration. "The only other alternative would have been to agree with him, and that would have spread anarchy which could have spread to Lebanon, because anarchy is a contagious disease."

He added that Lord Carrington would also be told of Israel's strong opposition to what it sees as European encouragement of the PLO, which has worked to undermine what he described as "moderates" among Palestinians in the West Bank prepared to work with the autonomy scheme.

Coup plot link denied by secret agent

From Richard Wigg, Madrid, March 29

A Spanish secret agent denied today that he was the vital link man involving the Defence Ministry's intelligence network in the assault on Parliament. Captain Vicente Gomez Iglesias's testimony contradicts that of three other defendants. He said he had only "a personal friendship" with Lieutenant-Colonel Antonio Tejero, who allegedly led "the attack" on Parliament.

Captain Gomez Iglesias was the second agent of the special operations branch of Cesis, the country's chief intelligence agency, to deny any involvement by the agency in the coup plot.

The chief military prosecutor appears to be trying to implicate not only Cesis agents but, through Major Jose Cortina (the captain's immediate superior), the former deputy Army chief, General Alfonso Armada, both of whom have denied any involvement in the plot.

The prosecutor confronted Captain Gomez with testimony by Colonel Miguel Manchado and Captain Jose Abad, both stationed at the Civil Guard's transport headquarters in Madrid, that his intervention was crucial in persuading them to provide the means for the captain's assault operation, because they assumed that his presence indicated that the intelligence agency was behind it. They both said Captain Gomez corroborated Colonel Tejero's alleged explanation that he needed the Civil Guards for a national operation to resolve the political situation.

Captain Gomez replied: "I was only supporting Colonel Tejero because of my experience of his personality, not because I had any prior information." The captain also claimed that he happened to be passing by, going to attend a course, when he overheard Colonel Tejero's remarks.

Contradicting Colonel Tejero, Captain Gomez denied he met him on two occasions days before February 23 last year and that he had arranged for radio telephones and a specially equipped car with false number plates belonging to Cesis to lead Colonel Tejero's column of six buses carrying almost 300 Civil Guards to Parliament.

"I cannot go into the reasons why Colonel Tejero said that," Captain Gomez told the prosecutor, who had asked why he was "denying" his friend, whom minutes before he had also praised as an excellent commander. The two had become friends while serving in the Basque country years before. All contacts in Madrid were only on family occasions, Captain Gomez claimed.

In earlier testimony a Civil Guard corporal working for Cesis told the investigating magistrate that he knew one week before the coup attempt that he had been assigned by the special operations branch to a "delicate mission" which allegedly turned out to be guiding the columns of buses to Parliament, using a car equipped with low-frequency telephones so that the police could not listen in.

Colonel Tejero has told the court that special telephones he received from Cesis for use when inside Parliament were a "disaster". He could not make them work for even one call.

The Government last year put through a limited reform of the intelligence agency, nominating a democratically inclined Army Colonel as the new chief, but has not put the agency directly under the Prime Minister's office to emphasize civilian control. This remains a long-term goal.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

India lets pilots give evidence

Delhi. — India will allow the pilot and co-pilot of an Air India airliner to go to the Seychelles to testify in a South African trial of 43 mercenaries accused of hijacking the aircraft after an abortive coup attempt last November.

A South African judge trying the men in Pietermaritzburg empowered a commission to take the pilots' evidence in the Seychelles after India had refused to allow them to go to South Africa. Delhi has no diplomatic relations with Pretoria.

An Indian Foreign Ministry spokesman said that Mr Umesh Saxena, the pilot, and Mr Sunil Misra would be permitted to be examined in the Seychelles by a non-South African judge. The mercenaries are accused of hijacking the aircraft to Durban.

Island families settle for £5m

About 900 families evicted by the British Government from the Chagos Archipelago in the Indian Ocean 17 years ago have accepted compensation worth £4m. They were moved to make way for an Anglo-American military base in Diego Garcia.

The islanders, who now live in Mauritius, are also to receive land worth £1m from the Mauritian authorities. The final agreement between the islanders and Britain was completed at the weekend after five days of negotiations in Port Louis, capital of Mauritius.

Death sentence for car deaths

Reno, Nevada. — An all-white jury has recommended that a 53-year-old black woman be executed in the Nevada gas chamber for murdering six people by hitting them with her car on a crowded Reno street. The judge will formally pass the death sentence.

Twenty-three other people were injured when Mrs Priscilla Ford's car careered along the pavement in November, 1980. Mrs Ford, who had pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity, said she believed she was Jesus Christ and the deaths were an accident.

Work to rule by pilots

Madrid. — Iberia Airlines pilots will begin an indefinite work to rule on Sunday. It will coincide with the peak spring travel period in Spain. Holy Week, and is expected to cause numerous flight delays.

The pilots union said they were demanding that their civil aviation qualification certificates be officially equated to university degrees.

Bomb at home of politician

Stockholm. — A letter bomb at the home of Mr Kjell-Olof Feldt, Sweden's shadow finance Minister, caused considerable damage but no injury.

Mr Feldt, a Social Democrat, is a controversial figure in Sweden after saying that taxes must be raised to support the welfare state if his party wins the autumn general election.

48 die in ferry

Rangoon. — At least 48 people were killed and 81 were reported missing when a ferry sank in a storm 20 miles south west of Rangoon.

Oryx comes back from the edge of extinction

By Tony Samstag

An Arabian oryx has been born in the wild only weeks after re-introduction of the species to its desert homeland in Oman, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) said yesterday. The oryx, a handsome extinct antelope, became extinct in the wild 10 years ago, but a captive herd of about 150 has been maintained in the United States.

Ten animals from the herd were released into the Jidat al-Harasis desert on the fringes of the empty quarter last month, after several years of preparation that included a period of readjustment in large open pens. The Sultan of Oman has taken a personal interest in the project, which is under the day-to-day control of a small nomadic tribe, the Harasis.

The Arabian oryx, thought by some to be the origin of the unicorn legend, is also known for its ability to go for years without drinking, gathering moisture only from desert vegetation and morning dew.

The WWF, which said it was jubilant, noted that the oryx's other claim to fame, a brilliant white summer coat, had begun to re-develop within months of their arrival from the United States.

As if to celebrate the birth, the desert has had heavy rain



for the first time in five years, which will provide new vegetation that "will aid the raising of the young and should promote further breeding".

More oryxes are to be released in Oman, and work has begun on a site in Jordan for a similar scheme.

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On the face of it there's no contest. The executive in the car is saving the company £13.70. But wait a minute; the figures bear closer scrutiny.

The car journey to Leeds takes about 3 hours, assuming there are no diversions, hold-ups or delays (and anyone who's recently travelled on the M1 knows that's a big assumption).

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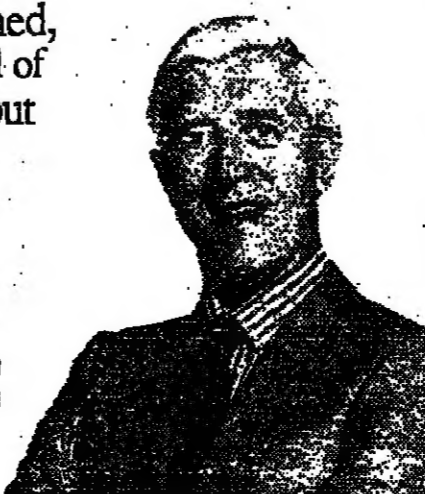
Suppose he's costing the company £10 an hour (in salary and apportioned overheads).

His trip to Leeds will cost the company £30 each way in unproductive time. Add that to the cost of petrol and suddenly the comparison with the train isn't so clear-cut after all.

The train allows the executive to work throughout the journey, if he so wishes.

With ergonomically-designed seats, air conditioning on many trains, sound-proofing, ample desk space and a total lack of interruptions, it's often a better place to work than his 'real' office. And after his meeting the business rail traveller can relax, stretch his legs and generally unwind.

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سكة حديد الوطن

NEWS IN SUMMARY

India lets pilots give evidence

India will allow the pilot and co-pilot of an Air India aircraft to testify in a court martial to the crash of the plane on the Indian coast after a court martial.

Island families settle for £5m

About 100 families living on the island of the British Government have agreed to accept a £5m offer to buy the island.

Death sentence for car deaths

A court in London has sentenced a man to death for the deaths of two children in a car crash.

Work to rule by pilots

Pilots in the United Kingdom are planning to go on strike over a dispute over working conditions.

Bomb in home of politician

A bomb was found in the home of a British politician, but it was not exploded.

Back from extinction

A rare bird has been found after being thought extinct for many years.

US puts 'yellow rain' evidence to Nato officials

From Frederick Bonhart Brussels, March 29

Reports of thousands of people being exposed to chemical warfare agents used by the Soviet Union, either directly or through its allies — in Afghanistan, Laos and Cambodia — were presented at Nato headquarters today by American officials.

The officials maintained that evidence gathered from hundreds of independent sources in widely different areas had confirmed to trained investigators that toxic gases, as well as chemical agents, had been used and were being used in these three countries.

They repeated last week's report to the United States Congress by Mr Alexander Haig, the secretary of state, and said that Laotian and Vietnamese forces under direct Soviet supervision had employed lethal toxins and chemical agents in Laos against guerrillas resisting government control and their villages. Thousands were killed in the attacks and many others were driven away from the attacked areas.

In Cambodia, Vietnamese forces had used toxins on Khmer Rouge troops and villages, while in Afghanistan, the Soviet forces themselves had used a variety of chemical agents against the insurgents.

The officials point out that the Laotian and Vietnamese troops could only have received materials from the Soviet Union since they are unable to manufacture them themselves, while Soviet forces in Afghanistan were known to store these agents in bulk.

The effects on individuals examined and the eye-witness reports of refugees interviewed have convinced the officials that the Soviet Union is using this method deliberately, partly for experimental reasons. But Mos-

cow's main purpose is said to be practical — successes on difficult mountainous terrain where chemical warfare is a cheaper way of dealing with isolated guerrilla groups or hostile population centres than deploying large bodies of troops.

British, however remain sceptical, although British scientists are now analysing samples produced by the United States.

A British official said that if the attacks had been on the reported scale a great deal more evidence would have been available. Nevertheless, the American evidence is not being dismissed especially since the Soviet Union, contrary to international agreements, has nationalised its refusal to shed light on an outbreak of anthrax at Severdlovsk.

Observers here consider the "motivation" argument to be the weakest point. The Soviet Union is a signatory of the 1925 Geneva protocol outlawing chemical and biological warfare and the 1972 biological and toxin weapons convention.

It seems difficult to believe that, at a time when the Soviet Union is trying to obtain maximum publicity for its stance of advocating arms control, it should risk jeopardizing this position for the sake of practical advantages in distant theatres of operation.

Bangkok: Vietnam today dismissed the State department report on chemical war in South-East Asia as "slandereous" (AFP reports). The report is aimed at "slandering the impact of Soviet initiatives for peace", the Hanoi Communist party newspaper *Nhan-Dan* said. The newspaper was quoted by the Vietnamese news agency in a report monitored here.



Mr Weinberger peering into North Korea from an observation post near Panmunjom.

Soldiers 'preying on refugees'

Kais, Sudan-Uganda Border, March 29. — Ugandan civilians who fled to Zaire to escape fighting in the north of their own country have been robbed of all their belongings by Zairean soldiers and in some cases killed, according to survivors who have moved to Sudan in search of a safer refuge.

A herdsman who managed to take 10 head of cattle with him when he sought refuge with his family in Zaire from fighting in his home area between government troops and rebel tribesmen, said Zairean soldiers not only seized the herd, but took his clothes and a radio.

"Any young Ugandan in good health who arrives in Zaire is suspected of having been a soldier for Idi Amin (the former dictator) and is constantly harassed," he said. He and others among the thousands of Ugandans in the camp here said Ugandan soldiers had made a number of raids into Zaire in pursuit of the refugees.

The incursions were mentioned by Mr Sjoerd van Schooneveld, who was posted here by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. He said the refugees were often in an atrocious state tired out, sick and undernourished, sometimes having taken two or three months to reach the Sudanese frontier. — AFP.

Weinberger pledges to boost S Korea forces

Seoul, March 29. — Mr Caspar Weinberger, the American Defence Secretary, said today that the United States was ready to meet an increased communist threat in the Pacific area by raising its own military strength and that of South Korea. Combined American-South Korean military strength was adequate to counter the threat from North Korea, but North Korean and Soviet strength was increasing, he said.

Noting that the United States was planning a big arms build-up over the next five years, Mr Weinberger said America had made it clear that it intended to remain a Pacific power.

The Defence Secretary, on a three-country trip in Asia, made his remarks at a lecture and expanded on them to reporters accompanying him on his trip. He said in his lecture, one of a series marking the 100th anniversary of United States-Korean ties, that Washington had been committed to South Korea's security since the end of the Second World War.

"The United States has an unwavering commitment to repelling prompt and effective assistance to repel armed invasion of the Republic of Korea," he stated.

But the threat had become more formidable in recent years, with the Soviet Union embarking on a more aggressive foreign policy and

East-West dialogue falters

Moscow decides to wait for Reagan to leave the stage

From Michael Binyon Moscow, March 29

Speaking in Minsk four years ago, President Brezhnev coined a phrase that has remained central to Soviet strategic thinking ever since. He warned the United States not to "play the China card" and said Washington would live to regret the day it encouraged Peking's anti-Soviet line.

Last week, on another provincial tour, the Soviet leader attempted to trump Washington's hand with a China card of his own. Although his overtures to Peking have received a frosty and predictable reply in public, the Russians appear quietly confident that they are still able to deal Washington some nasty surprises.

For two decades the Russians attempted to balance their uneasy triangular relationship with Peking and Washington by leaning towards the West. Promoting military security through a policy of détente and concentrating on arms control agreements with the United States instead of the apparently fruitless search for an accommodation with China.

This policy is changing. Both here and in Washington the Russians are complaining loudly that they cannot talk to the Americans any more. They regard the Reagan Administration as implacably anti-Soviet, uninterested in dialogue with Moscow and intent only in reestablishing Western military superiority while undermining the Soviet Union's ideological foundations at home and abroad.

Russians believe they cannot do business with Washington

In effect, the Russians have given up. They have talked themselves into believing they cannot conduct serious business with the present Administration. Instead, Soviet analysts are looking with satisfaction at the President's unpopular economic policies, the growth of peace movements in Europe and the United States, Western worries over American policies in Europe, the Middle East and Central America, and conclude they have only to wait three years before Mr Reagan is swept from office by a Democratic

candidate with whom they can speak again.

The situation is too dangerous, however, for the Russians simply to wait. Something has to be worked out now if Nato is to be stopped from deploying the medium-range missiles which the Russians see as the greatest threat to their Western flank. Something has to be done to counter the American programmes to produce chemical weapons, to raise the defence budget, to stiffen the Nato posture to Moscow and to take on the Russians around the world.

The search for a dialogue with Washington, therefore, has to go on. But the talks in Geneva, Vienna or New York are seen here as a holding operation, a way of keeping the door ajar rather than a route to real progress.

The Soviet press has voiced deliberate pessimism over the Geneva talks on medium-range missiles. It accuses the Americans of ignoring Soviet disarmament proposals at the United Nations, breaking off talks on the Indian Ocean, slighting President Brezhnev's initiatives and showing no interest in going forward with strategic arms control.

The Americans deny any deliberate cutback in the dialogue, saying that the Russians simply do not like what they are being told on Poland, Afghanistan and chemical weapons. Instead, Washington accuses the Russians of stalling, playing to the European gallery, refusing to put forward any real proposals and simply dressing up known positions in new propaganda clothes.

For a variety of reasons the Russians are in no mood to offer military concessions or back down in Poland or Afghanistan. First, they do not believe in American good faith.

Stung by tough rhetoric and seizing on the speeches of Administration figures they have identified as dyed-in-the-wool anti-communists including President Reagan himself they cite talks about the end of détente and confronting the Soviet threat as proof that Washington is only looking for ways of exploiting Soviet weakness.

Secondly, the Russians are confused by the changing policy on arms control in Washington. Moscow reckons it better to wait and

see rather than offer unnecessary concessions while the hard line prevails.

Thirdly, the Russians see the world situation as threatening to them, compounded by their own internal economic difficulties. They cannot afford any concessions or sign of weakness when they have their backs to the wall. Just as the West will not negotiate from a position of military weakness, so Moscow has to keep its military spending to keep its superpower credibility.

The aged politburo will not embrace radical new policies

Fourthly, the political situation at home is likely to preoccupy strategic planners. The aged politburo will not embrace radical new policies, but no potential successor to Mr Brezhnev can now challenge the foreign policy line.

Finally, Moscow has been hoping to influence Washington by proxy, by dialogue with and pressure on Western Europe. This has proved less easy since the election of President Mitterrand in France, the threat from the right to Herr Helmut Schmidt's coalition in West Germany and, of course, the imposition of martial law in Poland. Europe has moved closer to the Reagan view than Moscow anticipated.

But there is one card left in forcing better terms from Washington: the China card. The Chinese have let Western diplomats here know they see little prospect for better relations with the Soviet Union. But the Russians sent a senior China expert to Peking in January and recently received a Chinese economic delegation who are said to have been more senior than they appeared.

Moscow probably knows that China is trying to "play the Moscow card" in its quarrel with Washington over Taiwan. But a rapprochement, if only temporary and tactical, between the two communist giants would realign the relationships between the three countries; something the Russians in their embattled sense of isolation are eager now to do.

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CENTRAL

Fashion profile by Suzy Menkes

The choice for a lady whose word is law

How should a woman dress for the office and for home? Valerie Aggett, runner-up to The Times Businesswoman of the Year, explains how it can be done.

"People say that the principal of a college should not wear split skirts, but to me a small split on a tailored suit is a sign of femininity," says Valerie Aggett. "I think that too many ladies in the law dress to look like men in the belief that the less feminine they look, the better they will get on."

Strong words from a woman whose three inch high heels have walked over most of the opposition since she took over a small law school five years ago.

By the time Valerie Aggett reached the final of The Times Businesswoman of the Year competition last autumn, the turnover of Holborn Law Tutors Limited had risen tenfold to £700,000. The college had expanded to a new site in south London and she had married its owner. ("He wanted to make sure that the competition didn't get me.")

With her tumbling Tidian hair, model girl's figure and bold dress sense, Valerie Aggett looks a most unlikely candidate for the ruthless business woman, at least in this country. She has an American-style philosophy to

went with grey hair in a bun, spectacles and a twinset." That prissy image could not be a greater contrast to the arrival of Valerie Aggett at the studio, in a silky cream suit, covered with a cuddly fur jacket.

"I've got to enjoy wearing clothes, that's the most important thing," she says. "I like suits because they are sensible, but versatile. I always wear jackets. I would never wear a dress on its own for a business meeting. When I am going overseas, my clothes have to survive the journey. A pleated skirt is a disaster because I have never found a hotel that can press it properly."

"I like light colours, because I think they are more fun and can be dressed up easily for evening. My shopping is erratic as I never have any time. But when I am leaving on a trip I go on a mad shopping binge, which usually produces a series of beige and white suits with a selection of camisoles and tops to slip underneath."

In practical terms, those shopping trips mean a trip down to Knightsbridge, where Valerie Aggett looks round the fashion floors of Harvey Nichols. ("It's the cut of a suit I care about. It has to feel smart.") She also buys shoes, and especially shoes from Charles Jourdan.

shoes and handbags that match. I find gold sandals very useful when I travel. But the pavements in Malaysia leave a lot to be desired, and my sandals barely survive one trip by the time I have fallen down the monsoon drains!"

Aggett is lighthearted about her appearance but deeply serious about her teaching work.

A series of gold bikinis

which she undertook out of frustration with her career as a solicitor and a certainty that the law could be better taught.

"The law is still very much a man's world," she says. "There are very few lady partners in major firms left in the City. They stick their statutory ladies away in commercial conveyancing where they don't actually meet any clients."

It is hard to imagine a traditionally stuffy profession taking kindly to Valerie Aggett's bubbly and extrovert personality, although she claims that "there is a great deal of the actor in every lawyer. You see it more with barristers, but with the solicitors it is just hidden deeper."

Valerie Aggett's escape route from work is to take to the water - in the boat that she and her husband keep at Poole harbour. Clothes for the boat are a positive source of fun.

"I don't like the standard boating image of anorak and jeans and not worrying about your hair" (She washes her red-gold mane of curls every single day). "I always look for fun clothes for the boat. I bought a fuchsia Dior anorak, and for sunny days I have a series of gold bikinis. But I no longer wear accessories on the boat, because as soon as I put my head down, I lose combs and bangles overboard. There is a positive treasure trove at the bottom of the harbour."

Valerie Aggett's face must contribute to her fortune, and she certainly has a knack of combining work and glamour. The "statutory ten minutes" she spends every morning doing her make-up provides her with a useful opportunity to consult her husband about the business.

"We tend to hold most of our business meetings in the bathroom. I sit there with my paints and he shaves. Some of our most important decisions are made between the lipstick and the mascara."

● Suzy Menkes will report from the Paris collections on Friday.



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WORKING UNIFORM

Right: Valerie Aggett wears a white linen fitted jacket and matching split skirt, with a striped silk camisole and tasseled belt, all from Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, SW1.

BOATING OUTFIT

Left: regatta striped blazer, cap-sleeved T-shirt, and pleated-front shorts, all from Charles Jourdan, 39-43 Brompton Road, London, SW3.

DAY INTO EVENING

Far left: creamy silk slub culotte skirt and matching suede trimmed jacket, leather bag, all from Charles Jourdan, 39-43 Brompton Road, SW3.

Photographs by TONY BOASE Make-up by Teresa Fairbairn at Image Hair by Debbie at Daniel Galvin

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THE ARTS

Galleries

Dichotomy and deception in the Indian vision

In the Image of Man

Hayward

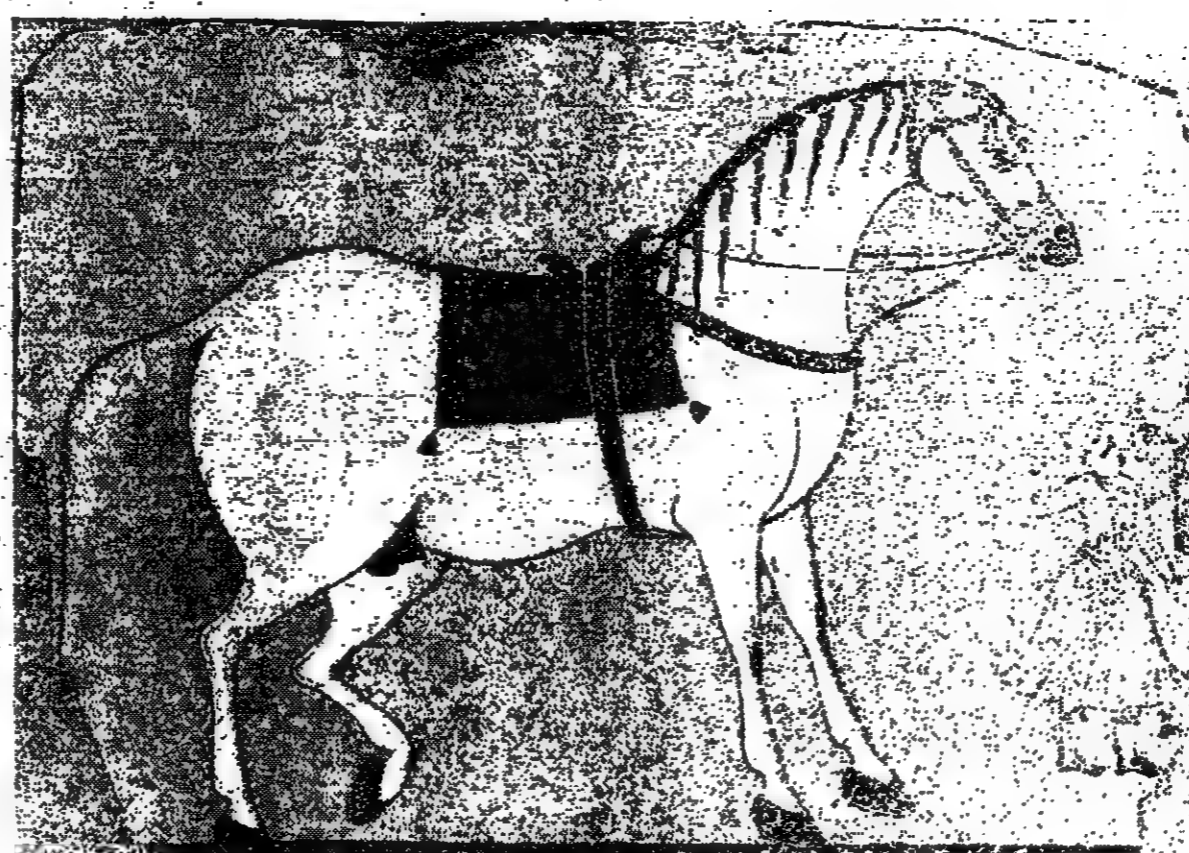
Most of us, no doubt, start with two fundamental, disparate images of Indian art. One is of the Taj Mahal, pure, elegant, pristine white. The other is of some jagged, carved, and painted, as if in stone, grotesque figures of minor deities, heavy-breasted women, holy men and demons and indefinable, set in a lot of highly ornate architecture and painted, as if in stone, in the most lurid shades imaginable. If we examine this simple dichotomy further, we probably conclude that the first image represents the Islamic strain in Indian life and the second the Hindu. But can it be so simple? Can anything connected with India, that land of contradictions, be so simple?

The enormous Arts Council show *In the Image of Man*, which kicks off the art side of the Festival of India with a run at the Hayward Gallery until June 13, certainly does not offer any easy capsule solutions. It is a vast subject, "The Indian perception of the Universe through 2,000 years of painting and sculpture", which at once raises more questions than it answers. It is a show that is so much a thing as the Indian way of perceiving the universe. And looking round the show we immediately become aware of many more traditions than our simple Hindu/Muslim division: a very important and prominent Buddhist tradition, for instance, as well as the Jain and those of various sects and splinter groups within the main families of religion. Evidently, too, religion and culture do not necessarily walk hand in hand; you often find side by side a work of the utmost sophistication and refinement and one which is in all senses primitive, and yet they may well both come from the same religious

tradition, and the first may predate the second by a thousand years, all depending on whereabouts in India they come from and what stratum of society.

The show, though looking good in a broad way, is again unaccountably transformed (after the show devoted to Lutyens, the laureate of Imperial India), is arranged in a fashion which creates as much confusion as it clears up: not on the whole, chronologically or geographically, but mainly by theme. This means that, if the subject-matter is largely concerned with plants and animals, it comes in the first section, whatever its origin in time or place. Eventually we get on to the various deities of the Hindu pantheon and what they represent, by way of a section called "Temple and Mosque" which seems aimed at making different traditions look much the same rather than defining just where the differences lie. So, finally, on a final visit at least, most people are likely to give up trying to make conceptual sense of it, and just enjoy (or not, as the case may be) the individual exhibits piece by piece.

On that level there is very little cause for complaint. Right at the start of the show there is an absolute knockout: a low-relief carving of the Ashoka tree from the second century AD which is of such directness and beauty I would defy anyone not to be surprised by joy. And, if you look closely, you will find that this is only the back of a much more elaborate carving (one can glimpse a chipped but undoubtedly heavy breast) which does make one wonder if the Hindu tradition was not much more agreeable in its relaxed moments, when nobody was really looking. From there on, it is all rather a ragbag of impressions. The minutiae of court life at the end of the first section are overwhelming in their exquisite finish and subtle stylization, and



"Horse and Groom", Rajasthani school, c.1660

some of the more secular carvings in this same area, such as an intricate yellow sandstone arch of flying female warriors (which of course comes from a temple too, manage to carry off a high degree of ornateness with some elegance. The Buddhist figures bring in a new, alien form of grace, and there is one in which the formalized carving of the folds in the robe and the serene expression are so overwhelming in their exquisite finish and subtle stylization, and

one to turn off noticeably when we get to the Hindu deities in the upper rooms: one suspects that a world ruled over by such a Bhairava, God of Terror, can never have been a very pretty place, even with the softening influence of Vaihari, a mother-goddess with an astounding resemblance to Miss Piggy. But at least, at the end of the show, we come back to human more. Westerners recognize as beauty. If you leave

with the impression uppermost in your mind of the bold black-and-white pattern made by the *Monkeys and Bears Crossing the Bridge to Lanka* from an early eighteenth-century Central Indian manuscript of the *Ramayana*, so sophisticated yet after all so simple, then you are probably in a very good position to start the journey all over again.

John Russell Taylor

New York theatre

Broadway's gift of self-dramatizing versatility

To New York ears the sound of large buildings being dusted usually echoes as cheerfully as the birds in spring. But there is a first time for everything, and last week a fearful crowd gathered on West 45th Street to look last on the *Mercury* and the *Hayward* Theatres, falling victim to Mayor Koch's big lead ball, and witness a pack of some 170 demonstrators, including Joseph Papp, Coleman, Dewhurst, and Tammy Grimes, being bundled into police vans from the already flattened adjoining site of the Bijou Theatre.

Nothing on the New York stage is going to rival that as a heartfelt piece of Broadway self-dramatization, but the rest of Broadway continues to have a go with the long-running *Sugar Babies* and *42nd Street*, and the return of Mr. Yankee Doodle himself, George M. Cohan, whose 1904 musical *Little Johnny Jones* opened and closed at the Alvin last week.

The most eye-catching new contender is Tom Egan and Henry Krieger's *Dreamgirls* (imperial) which delivers its old, salvationist message through the success story of a black singing group, not unrelated to the Supremes, who make it from a Harlem talent contest to the Olympian heights of Vegas at the expense of a payola scandal and the career of their lead singer.

Effie may have a voice to raise the dead — as proved by the amazing orchestra-obliviating Jennifer Holliday — but her squat person does not fit the image required by *Vogue* magazine and the elite performance circuit. What, in other words, the show records is the Dreamettes' success in crashing the race barrier; and what it fails to examine is the artistic sacrifice of packaging black music for consumption by rich Whites.

There are moments when the story comes into sadistic perspective. "I want to go into movies," breathes the abjectly beseeched Sherry. Let Ralph to an interview. "Like any other American girl," he says, "I want to be a star. Mr. Egan's book follows the 'rules' of backstage romance complete with 'Effie's' chart-topping remembrance with the old gang. The production is another matter. First, there is Robin Wagner's severe mobile scenery, which functions as an ominous counterweight to the Bijou Theatre's bright, in-it-made-up-of-the-world 'dreams' reverses into a tawdry prop behind which the glittering artists wage their squalid private feuds. Direction is by Michael Bennett, whose choreography makes a wonderful pattern from contrasting the ruthless professionalism of the dream world with the drabness of life outside. There is a limit, however, to what even a great director can do with a song musical — especially when the songs are not up to much.

The subject of how Blacks can make themselves to achieve power in the white world comes fully into focus in Charles Fuller's *A Soldier's Play*, a piece that states its crusading viewpoint through the harsh actualities of the Second World War, and irreproachable stagecraft. The Negro Ensemble has certainly found the right work to celebrate its fifteenth anniversary.

The play concerns an investigation into the murder of a black sergeant at an Army base in Louisiana in 1944. Waters, the victim, is first seen drunkenly roaring "they still hate you" before two shots bring him down; from which point the story develops through flashback to the Ku Klux Klan and

white officers from the suspects' list and finally reveal the crime as a grudge killing by a private of Waters's own colour.

The investigation is conducted with rigid correctness by a black captain, faced on one side with overfriendly negro other ranks and on the other by fellow officers who greet him with remarks like "being in charge just doesn't look right on Negroes". One theatrical fascination of the inquiry is the difficult aspects it reveals of the dead man as he emerges through the testimony of separate witnesses as a warm paternalist, a chain-gang tyrant, a politician in uniform and a man rent apart by enraged self-loathing. All these masks are superbly projected by the gravely-voiced, black, Adolph Caesar who nevertheless remains the same character through every transformation including the discovery that he, too, was a killer.

His victim was an illiterate

Mississippi boy, popular as a singer and football hero, but detested by Waters as a Jim Crow stereotype.

Here history enters the story. The enlisted Blacks had hitherto been denied the rights of combat, and were now about to have the chance of proving themselves in warfare. "I don't expect to see our race cheated out of its share of honour because of fools," says Waters after the boy's death. "One less clown in a black face for the race to be ashamed of."

Thus, in their separate way, the violent old sergeant and the college-educated captain (Charles Brown) are both waging the same campaign. Inside these main boundaries, the play seethes with other racial cross-currents, each one brought to aggressively comic life in Douglas Turner Ward's production and evoking the same exclamations of laughter and recognition from black and white spectators alike.



"A Soldier's Play": crusading viewpoint, irreproachable stagecraft

the sight of a high-school boy photographing his aunt's cherished fingerbowls and Waterford glass in order to illustrate an anthropology project on the eating habits of vanishing cultures. On learning this, she decides not to offer him a cocktail; it being the author's view that the Wasps will go marching on although they may return to the plough from time to time.

Mr. Gurney shares the credits with David Trainer's copiously inventive company who built up the piece in rehearsal and proclaim it as theirs in every dizzying switch from parental authority to infant tantrums.

Also from Capital Plays Christopher Durang's venemously funny *Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All For You*, in which the serenely sadistic Elizabeth Franz, clad in full battle dress of Our Lady of Perpetual Sorrows, steps before her lecture-hall audience to deliver the goods on hell and damnation, supported by a smirking 7-year-old who is rewarded with cookies for getting the right answers. She benevolently sails down most human activities as mortal sins and makes clear that there are still plenty of her ecumenical infancies slugging it out in purgatory.

She is briefly thrown off her stride when a group of her old pupils invade the platform with a subversive nativity play followed by ventriloquist confessions of abortions, homosexuality and alcoholic wife-beating. However, Sister Mary promptly restores order by diving into her habit and briskly gunning them down, leaving one miserable survivor, vainly raising his hand for permission to use the toilet. Once a catholic, as they say.

Irving Wardle

Nash Ensemble/Friend

Queen Elizabeth Hall

It was apt to link Sir William Walton and Constant Lambert in the Nash Ensemble's programme. Once they were thought to be composers of comparable stature, but Lambert's energies latterly went into conducting and so, quite apart from his early death, his full creative potential was not realized.

A good performance of his piano Concerto is a salutary reminder not only of his potential but also of his achievements in that direction. Sunday night's players — Ian Brown with nine instrumentalists conducted by Lionel Friend — gave the first movement the right sort of alacrity and headlong momentum, but Lambert's orchestral inventiveness, a single instance among many being a plangent cello melody accompanied by three clari- nets.

In fact, despite virtuoso keyboard writing, much of this work's fascination arises from its really being chamber music. Besides expressive cello playing from Christopher van Kampen, James Watson handled the difficult trumpet contributions with verve. Mr. Brown was brilliant in the rapid later part of the central Intermezzo.

When the concerto was written, in 1931, the combination of elegiac lyricism and jazz influence may have seemed implausible, yet the beauty of the slow finale has grown as the decades have passed. It was dedicated to the then recently dead Peter Warlock, and in that last movement Lambert's grief is obvious.

The definitive version of Walton's *Façade* was dedicated to Lambert, who was a memorable reciter of the Edith Sitwell texts. On this occasion the task was shared between Elizabeth Brown and Edward Woodward, and the result was one of the most satisfying performances I have heard.

Too often *Façade* is dispatched at absurd tempos,

Concerts

making the recitations glib and blurring Walton's acute stylistic caricatures. Mr. Friend's speeds, on the contrary, allow Mr. Brown and Mr. Woodward to point almost every word and demonstrate how much humour Dame Edith got into her eccentric verses. Indeed, one received the exhilarating impression that scarcely a single musical or literary point was missed.

Max Harrison

Janina Fialkowska

Queen Elizabeth Hall

The young Canadian Janina Fialkowska is a pianist who thinks with an originality, clarity and strength to which her rigorously disciplined fingers are equally strong, mercurial and tireless. Since I last heard her she has also given her imagination more room to breathe, tempering the often fierce intensity of her playing with a gentle breeze of whimsicality, moments of the unexpected in her meticulously calculated interpretations.

Making the most of the piano's resonances, yet with a harpsichord-like clarity of articulation, she coloured each harmonic corner, weight and nuance brought her Bach Partita No.2 with an imaginative precision that made its Sarabande an exquisitely intricate spider's web of line, its Capriccio a hedonistic fantasy.

It was that ability to absorb and make the narrative of the tiniest unit of sound that made the beginning and ending of her Chopin F sharp minor Polonaise so exciting, even its hardest dance rhythms live with a springy resilience, a delicate dynamism that engaged too her tougher, more idiosyncratic Mazurkas. Her rubato is restrained, some may feel too much so, yet its seemingly organic fusion with the tempo of the piece brought fresh inflections of joy and exuberance to her G minor Ballade.

Hilary Finch

Music in Paris

France beginning to discover the baroque

At the foot of the narrow cobbled Rue Mouffetard, bustling with barrows and bric-a-brac on the edge of Paris's fifth arrondissement, stands the little church of St. Médard. Its modest gothic architecture and warm acoustic make it a welcoming host for "Fêtes Baroques", a series of seven concerts spanning the mid-fifteenth to mid-eighteenth centuries taking place throughout this month, organized and sponsored by the record company Harmonia Mundi France.

At the opening concert, Les Arts Florissants, a group of nine young solo-singers and instrumentalists, directed from the harpsichord by William Christie, were performing two seventeenth-century oratorios by Luigi

Rossi, a contemporary of Monteverdi and in his time Rome's leading composer of vocal music and chamber cantatas. Written for and possibly originally performed in the great-halls of Cardinal Barberini's palace, their music, too rarely heard, has all the emotional insight and dramatic intensity of the sculpture of Bernini, himself a contemporary of Rossi in the service of the Borgheses and Barberinis.

St. Médard, Rossi's deeply affecting settings for voices and instruments of the pious, passionately meditative counter-reformation texts of *Un peccator penitente* and *O Cecilia* were realized by Les Arts Florissants in a more compelling, vitally explorative, unselfconscious performance than anything I had heard in England for some time.

It bore witness to a corresponding intensity of supporting scholarship and rehearsal. The forced sound, shallow respiration and high placing of the voice, for instance, the acute casting of word and idea, are details which William Christie insists must distinguish the performance of this music from that of the French baroque or even of Monteverdi. The deep fascination which this

softly spoken, thoroughly Europeanized New Yorker has had with the voice itself, ever since his days at Yale as a pupil of Ralph Kirkpatrick, led him in 1979 to gather together some of his students (he teaches at the Paris and Lyon conservatoires) in a group to experiment with baroque vocal technique. He called it Les Arts Florissants after Marc-Antoine Charpentier's little opera for young singers and it is now, socially and musically, a strongly unified group of equally strong individual characters and voices.

Their work, together with the steady and consistently lively contribution of Harmonia Mundi France to the baroque recorded catalogue and now to live performance in a miniature baroque festival in the heart of Paris, is playing an important part in the comparatively late-flowering renaissance of baroque music in France. Despite the work of musicians like Jean-Claude Malgoire, whose daughter plays in Les Arts Florissants, the level of debate in the press about questions of authenticity still has, to the English reader, a surprising flavour of *deja vu*. As *Le Monde* and *Le Figaro* despairingly slate Paris's latest

production of Monteverdi's *Orfeo* at the Théâtre National de Chailor, and hero-worship English scholars and performing groups, Anne Rey, in this month's *Le Monde de la Musique*, admits that France is still "à la recherche d'un art du chant perdu".

While William Christie continues to teach and pursue his own career as harpsichordist, and while his singers and players give half their time to their own solo careers, they rehearse five hours a week and are constantly researching and transcribing new works to add to their repertoire. Christie is particularly excited at the moment by the quantity of unharvested manuscripts of Charpentier lying in the Vatican and in a Jesuit College at Chantilly. It just needs somebody with enough time...

And then there is Rameau ("perhaps the music I love best in the falls next year, whose opera *Academy* will soon be released by Harmonia Mundi. The BBC are as eager to get hold of it for studio performance as Harmonia Mundi are to stage a similar series of concerts in England before too long.

Hilary Finch

Peer Gynt

National Theatre, Munich

Werner Egk, one of Bavaria's respected senior composers, was 80 last year. The Bavarian State Opera has regularly staged his numerous operas and ballets, and has marked the birthday with a brand-new production of his *Peer Gynt*.

It was an obvious choice. His later operas have been in the Munich repertoire quite recently. The first one, *The Magic Fiddle*, perhaps the most famous, was given a new production on German television a few years back and needs no pushing. His best known ballet, *Abraxas*, had a new production at the Munich National Theatre only three years ago. But *Peer Gynt*, first performed at the Berlin State Opera under den Linden in 1938, came to life at an awkward period for a young, go-ahead German composer. Not only Egk's music, but its literary source in Ibsen's play, fell foul of the Nazis, whose mouthpieces invoked the accursed influences of Brecht, Weill, Schoenberg and Stravinsky.

Peer Gynt was never actually interdicted, but friendly opera critics were warned off, and Egk's own Bavarian opera company in Munich did not dare show it until 1952. One of the extra pleasures of attending the new Munich production is to read, in the programme book, the composer's reminiscences of the work's stormy early history, written with uprightness, frankness and literary verve. The Bavarian Opera's programme books for new productions are nowadays a model of their kind, real books (108 pages for *Peer Gynt*) full of original information, lots of photographs and pictures, sometimes even an historic gramophone record, and all — thanks to one English pound.

With so much twentieth-century history behind it, Egk's *Peer Gynt* was a clear candidate for a new look revival in Munich. The house musical director, Wolfgang Sawallisch, is in charge, and powerfully too: the cast is strong, and includes some senior soloists, such as Astrid Varnay, Ferry Gruber, Karl Christian Kohn, Keith Engen and David Thaw, who now bring valuable expertise to character roles, if you can survive a wobble now and then.

Egk made his own operatic précis of Ibsen's huge drama saga. Most of us will regret the omission of favourite scenes, and for me it is a stiff, unimaginative selection from Ibsen's exotic gallimaufry of riveting episodes; the father and daughter Trol, for instance, are given more importance than they deserve. Egk turned Ibsen's theatrical macrocosm into a microcosm by his choice of scenes, and although Wilfried Wetz's spacious, quite flamboyant setting and Kurt Horner's forthright, well-controlled staging compel attention, it is not the Shakespearean sort of pilgrim's progress which Ibsen gave us.

Egk, still writing music, might now want to include more of Ibsen's scenes, linking them with orchestral interludes: a la *Wozzeck*. In 1938 a young composer respected self-imposed restraints, and kept his music spare. The first scenes are restrained indeed, near Hindemith's neo-classicism, less bold even. Later the vocal music finds a more melodious style, and does approach, rather gingerly, the harmonic and tuneful manner of the more serious Weill. In sociable scenes we may hear a hint of Carl Orff's *Der Mond* or *Die Kluge*, two frivolous fairy-story operas of those days, but again kept at heel.

Opera

Egk's Bavarian birthday present

Now and then the hedon-

ism of Lehar peeps from Egk's amorous or luxurious music, and for the final scene, where Solveig welcomes Peer home to her side, the sensuous warmth of Ibsen's *Die tote Stadt* is frankly and creatively adopted. No, it is not an original sort of music; for much of the time it sounds attractive, but to modern ears rather derivative. Egk's treatment of *Peer Gynt* might tell us that, in a way, I think, if you did not know Ibsen's original. In Munich it is a lavish show which moves resourcefully, and with some theatrical special effects of a grandiose nature — the revolving stage in the hall of the mountain king, Peer on the gangway of his gold-laden ship, above a convalescent home, the panopticon, a good lea-show and more.

The Munich cast is bravely led by Hermann Becht's unsteady but thoroughly heroic Peer Gynt, hampered though he is by a tattered dressing-gown so that one wonders how any girl could fancy him. Lilian Sukis is the enchanting Solveig, even as an old woman in the last scene (her finest music). Egk has been given a handsome birthday present by the Bavarian State Opera.

William Mann

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Tories, beware the flannelette brigade

By Chris Patten

The SDP has been attacked by some Conservative leaders as the Mark 2 Labour Party. The trouble is that for many Conservative voters it clearly looks more like the Mark 1 Conservative Party.

As by-election victories go, Hillhead may not have been *grand cru*, but at the very least it was a remarkable triumph of daring-do over political calculation. A four-party fight is not ideal ground for a politician standing for a fledgling third party. Mr Jenkins, showing the same sort of reckless courage for which Mrs Thatcher is justly celebrated, won by a couple of lengths. We should raise our hats to another example of conviction politics.

Hillhead will restore a greater sense of realism to Westminster. Before and after the Budget, parliamentary life seemed more concerned with the rest of the world than normal. The Labour Party kitted up that the Bishop of Storrford conference had assumed the political proportions of VE Day. For some Conservatives, the economy was poised on the brink of miraculous recovery; it was not too absurd apparently to contemplate a snap election, asides turned and ends of tunnels blazed with fairy lights. Meanwhile, the electors of Glasgow bided their time.

Little has happened that should now surprise us: little that should throw us into panic about the future or into anxious reappraisal

of principles and party. The punter will continue to lay bets against a single party emerging from the next election with an overall majority. The sensible Tory will remain just that, declining offers to follow the scarcely discernible footprints of Mr Brocklebank-Fowler across the floor of the House.

The Tory will nevertheless view the SDP differently from the Labour Party. Politics is all "in" or "out"; if one has to be out, better Mr Jenkins than Mr Foot or Mr Benn. It is plain silly to pretend that the SDP leaders are closet Marxists, more sensible to observe that the period on which their personalities, style and policies dominated British politics was not exactly all glittering prizes and dazzling success.

Nor should we make too much of the inexperience and present invisibility of many of those who would be deposited in offices up and down Whitehall by an SDP-Liberal Alliance bandwagon. There is nothing more innately absurd about the prospect of Cyril Smith with a red box than of the ministerial promotion of several members of Mr Foot's present front bench.

Nevertheless, the identity of some of those now presumably destined for high office in an Alliance government, mainly because of their difficulties with local Labour parties, must give Mr Jenkins as well as the rest of us pause for a little gentle rumination

about the role of chance in this run old world.

The charge that the SDP has no policies may be a more substantial one for Tories to level. Yet by the next election, I suspect the new party will be chock-a-block with policies on everything — laminated on all sides, ideal for the average family, good mileage to the gallon, adjustable rear-view mirror, reclining front seats and stereophonic speakers in all four doors. Whether it will have a coherent approach or philosophy or way of looking at the world is another matter.

Dr Owen and Mrs Williams tell us that their party is about egalitarianism and decentralization. Others would like the party to be about winning votes by causing the least possible offence to the largest possible number of people. A few would like to out-do Francis Pym in their honesty about the gravity of Britain's problems and the sacrifices and dislocation involved in overcoming them.

But I suspect these brave hearts will be out-argued by those for whom moderation is synonymous with soft options, those who believe that the party's main appeal should be smug, snug flannelette pragmatism.

We have already seen the SDP's feeble indecisiveness over how to react to Mr Tebbit's modest little Bill on industrial relations. It is almost certainly impossible to pursue a successful, balanced economic policy, which reduces

unemployment but does not unleash inflation, without fundamental change in our system of monopoly pay bargaining. That involves curtailing destructive trade union power.

The SDP leaders will walk around this nettle, observing it from all sides; they will take books out of the London Library to read all there is to read about its botanical properties; the last thing they will do is actually to grasp it and tear it out of the ground.

This is an important reason, though not the main one, why a Tory should stay where he is rather than join up under Mr Jenkins's colours. The fact is that Mr Jenkins and his colleagues are not Tories. This is more than a quibble.

It is argued that Tories who agree with some of Mr Jenkins's views about economic policy and constitutional reform should forget what he calls himself and throw in their lot with him. Their reservations are compared to the arguments of the medieval schoolmen about nominalism and realism. What's in a name? Look at the essence.

However, the essence is hardly Tory. The Tory tradition of prudence, balance, continuity, stability, consent, hostility to systems or dread of enthusiasm may not dominate the thinking or actions of the present government, but nor does it dominate those of the Alliance.

The Gang of Four are not the lineal descendants of Burke,

Disraeli, Baldwin and Churchill. They cut their political teeth attacking the years and the policies of Butler and Macmillan. They are not the custodians of what is still the most distinguished and honourable tradition in British politics.

And there is a further reason why moderate Tories will stay where they are. What Britain needs is for the SDP to replace the Labour Party as the main party of the left. If it replaces the Conservative Party on the centre-right, we shall still face the grisly prospect of an extremist Labour Party working outside Parliament to destroy a moderate government and to win power for itself as the sole remaining alternative.

So Tories should stick to their guns and stick to their guns. We should do all we can by voice and by vote to see that in the run-up to the next election the Conservative Party looks more capable than the SDP of offering once again what Mr Jenkins, after his Hillhead triumph, called the policies of sense, moderation and hope.

Beyond that, we must fight to ensure that the government — I hope the Conservative government — that is elected in two years' time governs in that spirit from the very start of its life. It will have a better chance of success if it does.

The author is Conservative MP for Bath.
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A people in the shadow of extinction

So many people are suffering in Iran at present from the bloodthirsty practices of the Khomeini regime that it seems almost invidious to single out any one group as the special object of international concern. But there is one group of Iranians whose situation justifies this because they do not have any rights, even in theory, under the constitution of the Islamic republic.

That group is the followers of the Baha'i religion. In Iran today a person exists, legally, only as a member of a religious community. One may be Muslim, Christian, Jewish or Zoroastrian. One may not, legally, be Baha'i. Although Baha'is are enrolled by their faith to eschew all political involvement, the Iranian authorities persist in regarding them as a "political faction", not a religion. Although on a whole-scale campaign of genocide has yet been undertaken against them, they have no redress when, as frequently happens, a group of zealots attacks them, destroying their property and even murdering them. They are a community living under suspended sentence of death.

All credit, therefore, to the Minority Rights Group for publishing, shortly before his return to Iran in 1979, a report on *The Baha'is of Iran* which is both timely and objective, and which explains — but does not excuse — the hostility that Baha'is have to contend with, not only from the present regime but from very large numbers of their Muslim compatriots.

Baha'ism developed in the mid-nineteenth century out of Babism, a Messianic religious movement with strong revolutionary overtones. In 1844 a young Shirazi merchant, Seyyid Ali Muhammad, proclaimed himself the Bab or gate, through which Shi'ite Muslims could communicate with their Hidden Imam. He said the reappearance of the Imam (equivalent to the Second Coming) was imminent, and that it was his mission to prepare men for this. Later he claimed to be the Imam himself, bringing a new dispensation that superseded the law and teachings of the Koran.

The Babis were trying, in effect, to overturn both the prevailing religious orthodoxy and the social order; and they were quite prepared to use violence even if they themselves saw this as defensive. Inevitably, the authorities reacted with repression. The Bab was arrested, tried and convicted for heresy and finally executed by firing squad in 1850. Over a four-year period at least 3,000 Babis were put to death and the surviving adherents were forced into clandestinity.

Baha'ism, founded by Mirza Husain Ali, who called himself Baha'ullah (the Glory of God), was in essence an attempt to save Babism from extinction by diverting it from politics. Baha'ullah, who came to be regarded by the majority of Babis as the Universal Manifestation of God whom the Bab had foretold, saw that the path of armed revolution was suicidal, and saved his followers from it by developing a quietist interpretation of the faith.

Baha'ullah was exiled from Iran in 1853 and eventually settled at Acre in Palestine, then part of the Ottoman empire. This has had the unfortunate effect of placing the centre of Baha'ism as a worldwide religion within the frontiers of the present-day state of Israel, thus enabling the modern enemies of the Baha'is to accuse them of sending funds to Israel and acting as agents of Zionism.

Edward Mortimer

Who will pay for the chariots to race again?

by David Hewson

At three o'clock this morning, London time, the glittering prizes of Hollywood were handed to their delirious winners.

There seems certain to be a strong British contingent among the celebrants. Oscars rarely come our way these days, but among the nominations last night was *Chariots of Fire*, fighting on seven separate fronts, including that of best film, and *The French Lieutenant's Woman*.

With both titles receiving acclaim at the US box office and from influential critics, the example of a successful foreign film industry is starting to appeal to a Hollywood racked by self-doubts over some of its own highrolling flops.

What the flood of Mott & Chandon in Beverley Hills may obscure is that the present resurgence of the British cinema business is, at the moment, purely an artistic one. In commercial terms, our film-makers are facing tortuous difficulties in raising capital, even when their careers are blessed by past financial and critical success.

For the past six months, one group has been touting for support to film a Frank Capra-style comedy on a modest budget of around £3m set in the Scottish Western Isles. The producer is David Putnam, who was behind *Chariots of Fire*, the lead actor Burt Lancaster, and the writer Bill Forsyth, who scripted and directed *Gregory's Girl*.

Two weeks ago, at the British Academy of Film and Television Arts awards, the domestic equivalent of the Oscar ceremony, Putnam picked up the prize for best film with *Chariots*, Forsyth the best script category for *Gregory's Girl*, and Lancaster the best actor's award for his part in Louis Malle's *Atlantic City*.

The results came as no surprise, since all three films had been well received. What is surprising is that when Putnam tried to find backers for his joint project, a feature which was low-priced and with transatlantic appeal, he was turned down by a number of major financiers, including Rank and EMI. Clearly, if that sort of response is handed out to established film-makers, with successful track records, lesser mortals stand little chance of raising capital.

Putnam's project, to be called *The Local Hero*, will go ahead. The first day of shooting is scheduled for April 26. But its backing has depended on 100 per cent support from Goldcrest Films, the Pearson Longman subsidiary set up last year in anticipation of the coming cable and satellite boom.

The City watched with interest when Pearson Longman, owners of the *Financial Times* and the Westminster Press provincial newspaper group, stepped into the normally flamboyant world of film financing. James Lee, Pearson Longman's chief executive, and the man principally behind the move, forecast that Goldcrest would raise £12m from outside interests to bring the company's future production pool to just under £30m.

Mr Lee now confirms the suspicions of many in the film industry that Goldcrest is finding the going much harder than expected. After knocking on most of the important doors in the City, the company has collected £6m of its £12m target. This failure comes in spite of the considerable financial and artistic talent Goldcrest has at its disposal.

Mr Lee concedes that he is disappointed by the City's



Chariots of Fire, in the running for seven Oscars; but what future for the British film industry?

response, but believes that his approach will be proved right. "The plans we started with aren't changed in any way. If anything I'm more bullish than I was before. The one black spot is that we are trying to build up a pool of money under Goldcrest's management of just under £30m and we're still a long way short of that."

What Goldcrest and the industry knows full well is that Mr Lee's potentially far-sighted plans are now likely to stand or fall on one film, Sir Richard Attenborough's life of Gandhi, made by the company in partnership with Indian interests for £8.9m and due for release on December 1. Gandhi is long, relatively expensive, and scheduled for a huge international launch. If it flops, Goldcrest's plans to establish itself as the major force in British film-making, producing around four films a year

and a wide variety of television material, will lose momentum. But why is British film finance so hard to come by? The answer seems to lie in the perception of what the industry is like, rather than the reality. One event above all has clouded the horizon for British film-makers — the debacle at Lord Grade's Associated Communications Corporation.

The Grade empire's near-fatal difficulties through profligate and ill-advised cinema ventures have been widely publicized, and City gossip insists that further dismal revelations about film losses are to come. The disaster has tainted film finance in the eyes of many investors who simply see it as a little more than an unattractive gamble.

The trouble with this viewpoint, from the film-makers' side, is that it is

historical when investors should be far-sighted. It does not take into account the vast broadening of the market for film which is now occurring throughout America with cable networks and already spreading to other parts of the world. Britain's own cable television plans speak of 30 channels available to each home. The question facing programme makers is who will supply the material?

Most of Goldcrest's offers, for instance, were for films which were pre-sold to American cable networks such as Home Box Office so that a substantial part of the production costs were guaranteed. This practice is in marked contrast to the historical gamble of the cinema which hinged directly on the number of people willing to pay to see a particular film.

These points are not so much lost on potential investors as outweighed by a

continuing suspicion that the entertainment industry is, *per se*, simply fickle.

It is a view compounded by the casual attitude meted out to the industry by government. Whatever the devotion of Mr Iain Sproat, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Department of Trade responsible for film, it must be tempered by his attention to other responsibilities such as civil aviation, shipping, tourism, service trade industries and statistical matters.

At the same time, cable, satellite and television affairs, which are inextricably linked with the financial fortunes of the film-makers, are dealt with elsewhere, at the Home Office.

On Friday Sir Harold Wilson's committee on the film industry will deliver its latest report, its fifth, and will doubtless repeat its call for the formation of a British Film Authority to advise the Government on film policy and take on some supervisory financial role superseding the present, much criticized Eady Levy system.

The report is also likely to demand sweeping changes in the distribution system for British films, which now gives an advantage to the larger fish in an increasingly complex sea. But unfortunately the committee's findings have largely proved to be grist for the official reports mill. None of its key recommendations over the past five years has been transformed into legislative action, and there is no sign that things will be any different this time.

Mr Lee says: "The political message we have been trying to put across is that films may be a small industry but they happen to be one in which Britain has a real competitive advantage. We can make films of great quality at lower cost, faster."

What he is becoming clear is that the ability to make good, popular films which receive international acclaim is only one part of the story. The struggle to create a financial climate which encourages the making of such films is equally vital, and it is a fight which may be lost in Britain. On reflection, our doubtful film-makers may find that the most sobering thought amid their Californian revels is a sense of wonder that they ever got there in the first place.

A Golden hand for London's Wiener Library

The Wiener Library, the unique London collection of contemporary ephemera and documents about Nazism and anti-Semitism, has found a propitious supporter for its £1m appeal fund, launched by James Callaghan.

On Friday a double-page advertisement for the appeal will appear in the *Jewish Chronicle*, paid for by the Golden Charitable Trust. The name refers not to the trust's endowments, though those are generous, but to its founder, Lewis Golden, who is also treasurer and considerable benefactor to the London Library. Golden is an ex-paratrooper officer, adjutant of the divisional signals at Arnhem, who made his fortune as an accountant. The Wiener Library, whose director is Professor Walter Lequeur, the historian, author of *The Terrible Secret* and consultant and adviser to successive American administrations, has been in financial difficulties since a previous chairman, Leonard Montefiore, died in 1963 without securing his estate from death duties.

Blood money

Some readers relish gory details, I fear. Since my note about the tempting buffet provided for those who give blood in France, I have been flooded with blood donors' contributions. Not a pretty picture.

students have discovered, blood can be sold for cash. The precise payment depends on the blood group. In India it is possible to earn remission on prison sentences in exchange for blood. According to some correspondents the going rate is a month per pint.

Now, I learn, the London Dungeon will shortly be advertising for blood to make its ghastly exhibits more realistic — and offering £25 a pint. What have I started?

Two's a company

These are thrifty times in the theatre. The National Theatre of Brent, having re-enacted the Zulu Wars and the Charge of the Light Brigade with a cast of two, added just one more when called on to represent the entire population of the Indian sub-continent in *The Black Hole of Calcutta*.

Now, at the same venue, the Drill Hall in Chertsey Street, a company called Shared Experience offers Arthur Schnitzler's *La Ronde* with a cast of two. The actors change roles and costumes on stage aided by nine dummies which act as clothes-horses. Whatever happened to Equity?

Left of centre

There is a sinister implication in Roy Jenkins's triumph at Hillhead. If he goes on to become Prime Minister, he will be the first left-hander in the job as far back as PHS research can reach. It is true that Macmillan shot from the left-shoulder, which suggests that he would naturally have been left-handed, but he writes with his right hand.

THE TIMES DIARY



It is a good thing MPs are elected for up to five years term because it can take them easily that long to get any useful information out of government departments. Clement Freud asked the Minister for Arts for a list of artefacts for which export licences had been granted and for which refused, and was told it was not in the public interest. He asked again, and was told it was a matter for the Department of Trade. He asked the Trade Secretary, and was told the policy of successive governments had been not to disclose such information. He was back again yesterday, asking what other information it was policy to withhold. He is still no nearer the information he wanted.

Jenkins and Macmillan have one other rather sinister omen in common. Neither became President of the Oxford Union, Macmillan because he was Librarian in Trinity Term 1914, and Jenkins because he was Librarian in Trinity Term 1939.

Man's-eye view

The father of British bird photography is being honoured with an exhibition at the National Museum of Wales, of which he is still treasurer at the age of 91. Colonel H. Morrey Salmon took his first photograph of a lapwing on its nest in 1909. Though always an amateur, pursuing his ornithology while heading a family business in Cardiff docks and during a distinguished military career, Salmon pioneered the use of photography for bird censuses. In 1954 he took a night-time photograph of dozens of curlews roosting in a peat pool in mid-Wales, for which the theory

that the birds gathered in pools at night to escape foxes or other predators.

Sinking feeling

The war between the ferry companies on the English Channel is becoming as tedious as having to travel on the boats themselves. The advertisements are replete with apparently contradictory claims and statistics, for some of which there are technical explanations in the fine print.

Sealink claims credit for accepting foreign currencies for on-board purchases, without saying that the exchange rates are often unfavourable. Townsend Thoresen prides itself on offering a restaurant on every sailing, but not, I should hope, on the standard of the food. Townsend Thoresen also stresses that it has been "car ferry company of the year three times in a row" compared with "Sealink" — never. It should be added that

the title is a trade award in a trade magazine, and need concern the travelling public not at all.

The whole business is making PHS slightly sea-sick.

Ungodly act?

A Guide to the Gods, an omnithematic anthology by Richard Carlyon, published yesterday, commends what many will consider sacrilege by placing the gods of Judaism, Christianity and Islam alongside such esotericism as the Australian deity whose creative organ was so extravagant that he was obliged to wear it round his neck, the Chinese who became a god through inventing the writing brush and the Mayan god of healing, who operated beneath the sign of the red hand.

Carlyon's explanation may turn away some wrath: "Yahweh, with Allah and the Christian God," he writes, "are arguably too intimately exalted to belong in the gaudy company who throng these pages. But God is to be found everywhere."

President Reagan postponed a press conference he was to have held yesterday. He decided that with the shuttle landing and the Oscar ceremonies, there was too much else happening to afford him the attention he requires.

Aerial battle

A curious dispute revolves around Highpoint flats in Highbury, one of the best-known buildings by Berthold Lubetkin, recently awarded the Royal Institute of British Architects'

gold medal nearly 30 years after giving up practice.

Highpoint was bought by its residents in 1979, but the vendor retained a lease on the roof where Pye Telecommunications had erected four commercial aerials. Pye now wants to replace those with two new ones with antennae on the three rooftop cabins for its employees.

Haringey council has twice refused the application on the ground that the new structures would seriously detract from the appearance of a building regarded as an important step in the development of the Modern Movement. Fifty residents have written to Michael Heseltine asking him to reject Pye's appeal against the council's refusal.

Liquid assets

Magdalen College, Oxford, more than usually conscious of the need for economies after completing £90,000 worth of restoration work on its famous tower, is considering a significant reduction of stocks in its wine cellar.

The college aims for a five-figure improvement in its bank balance by reducing its stocks of everything from salt to washing-up liquid, including wine.

The future of the cellar, lovingly built up by the former President James Griffiths, is now being considered by the wine committee, and the college has already discreetly sold much of its stock because the present President, Keith Griffin, says drinking habits have changed in favour of claret. That may not stop them selling claret next.

Tasty stories

Dave Wetzel, the chairman of the GLC transport committee, is reported to eat apple crumble with Daddies sauce. A story told of Harold Evans, until recently editor of *The Times*, alleges that he once in a restaurant tediously ordered a Brussels sprout omelette.

Do readers know of other such original contributions to the British culinary repertoire? I do not want to hear about horrors of the single red hair in a soup-plate of Brylcreem genre. Let's keep it edible, if not appetizing.

Foyled again

Some of the signatures on a round-robin in support of 16 staff dismissed by Foyle's bookshop are going to be hard for Christina Foyle to stomach. Among almost 70 names are many of those who have been guests of honour at her Foyle's literary luncheons in the past.

They include J B Priestley, Michael Foot, A J Ayer, Jennie Lee, Melvyn Bragg, Margaret Drabble and Julian Symons.

The Earl of Gosford created a little-noticed piece of parliamentary history last Thursday when he was voted into silence by his peers. There is no trace that a motion that Lord be no longer heard has been voted upon since 1858. The last time such a motion was agreed without division was in 1960 when the Lord Lord Stansgate provoked the Lord Lansham to it. Gosford lost the division by a crushing 147 to 15.

PHS

BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

Glynwed engineers success... Freemans fashions a trend

Excitement below a drill surface

How hard does an engineering company have to try to be rated successful? The answer, looking at Glynwed, seems to be very hard indeed in City eyes once it is no longer a recovery stock. Sally White writes. Even with profits at a record £19.3m against £16.1m, and the dividend (maintained at 7.35p after a final of 4.9p) covered 2½ times on a historic accounting basis and 1.6 times on a CCA basis, the company is not rated an exciting investment prospect.

Analysts are suggesting pretax potential for this year at around £22m; that puts the earnings at 8.5 times compared with a sector average of 10.3 prospectively. In other words, Glynwed is still trailing by 20 per cent of the sector average. The share price has been moving up, ahead of the expected higher profits, to 117½p, a rise of 3½p, against a low of 70½p and just fractionally short of the high. The yield is 8.9p.

While it may be a dull stock on the market, it has accomplished a large amount in reorganising its traditional engineering business.



Fletcher: more work to do on British operations.

Mr Leslie Fletcher, chairman, came to Glynwed 12 years ago from Schroder Wagg, and has been slogging steadily away to cut numbers, modernize products and production processes, and switch a larger percentage of the profit-

earning capability of the business overseas. This year, 1,000 more have been shed, although the changes have not been drastic enough to be shown as an extraordinary item, costing around £1m and being

absorbed in the trading profit. While the gearing is still high, with the debt equity ratio at 66 per cent, the interest payments are four times covered.

Both home and overseas sides have shown an improvement in profits, only steel stockholding lagging.

"We have got to do more work on our United Kingdom companies," Mr Fletcher said. "Whether that is called strategy I do not know — but we are still cleaning up there, and we are still working on developing products." The company is aiming at a 40/60 split between overseas and home trading income. This year arrived at 50/50.

The trading profit break-down on 1981 was: building and consumer products in this country £7.86m against £5.8m; steel and engineering in Britain, £5.35m against £4.9m; overseas household and industrial appliances £3.23m against £2.49m and overseas steel and engineering £2.9m against £1.48m. Steel stockholding and distribution in Britain showed a trading loss of £704,000 against a profit of £1.33m.

Mr Fletcher says that demand for consumer products, as well as building products — such as copper piping — which did well last year, have plateaued so far this year. But it is early days to judge 1982.

Profits in the post

Fortunately for Freemans, clothes wear out. Sales of clothes was one of the strong items for the mail order group in 1981, and helped it achieve profits growth of 12 per cent against government statistics of a 1 per cent rise generally. As Mr Ralph Aldred, managing director, explained customers were in no hurry to buy new clothes in 1979 and 1980, and after that length of time new wardrobes were overdue.

Freemans increased pretax profit of £13.1m, up from £10.6m and raised the dividend for the full year from 3.7p to 4.15p, after a final of 2.25p. The shares rose by 2p, leaving the yield at 4p. The rating at that price vs 15½ times, and many analysts are going for slightly less than that for the present year.

"Another major factor in our performance was the increase in agents — we put on 70,000 to bring the number to 600,000 with three or four customers each," said Mr Aldred.

Good though that performance was, it did not reach the heights forecast by some analysts. This was because the drop in sterling

in the second half affected margins on imported goods, and interest rates were relatively high compared with the earlier period.

Ironically, while Freeman did well on separates and clothing, it was not able to benefit from the really cold snowy January. By then the spring catalogue was out.

The trend this year shows an improvement in demand, and Freemans says it hopes this pattern will now be maintained.

The group is particularly strong among the younger sectors of the population, with both agents and customers heavily represented in the lower age groups. It does particularly well with fashion clothing.

Backing the agents is the group's nationwide telephone order system Order Line, which by the end of the year accounted for more than 40 per cent of all orders received.

But it is non-clothing that Freemans pick out as doing best so far in 1982 — hi-fi and electricals.

While Freemans's rating is fairly demanding it is hard to compare it with other companies in the sector — although it is the most popular of the shares. Grattan and Empire still have their problems, and Great Universal Stores is a conglomerate. The share is on a high for the year.

INTERNATIONAL



JAPAN

Japan's exports of cars, trucks and buses fell by 10.8 per cent in February from a year before to 472,981 units, continuing a persistent downward trend in the face of overseas economic stagnation and Japan's export restrictions. The National Automobile Manufacturers' Association said yesterday. Exports of small passenger cars fell by 20.5 per cent from the year-earlier level to 264,495 units in February, but those of medium-sized passenger cars went up by almost 40 per cent to 41,700 units.

● The Japanese Government announced that it is to limit the export of cars to the US this year to the 1981 level, at 1.68 million vehicles.

THAILAND

The Thai Government has signed a preliminary agreement with a consortium which includes foreign involvement to buy natural gas, tapped in the Gulf of Thailand.

NEW ZEALAND

The Government is giving New Zealand an immediate \$NZ250m (about £21.52m) to help the airlines through "a period of recovery". The company is facing an estimated \$NZ90m (about £32.75m) loss in the financial year ending tomorrow.

NORWAY

Norway's 1981 balance of payment surplus was Kroner 13,800m, up 151 per cent from Kroner 5,500m in 1980. There was an export surplus last year on goods and services of Kroner 26,100m, compared with a surplus of Kroner 17,400m the year before.

WEST GERMANY

Volkswagenwerk has raised its car prices in West Germany by an average of 3.9 per cent. The last increase was 2.3 per cent, announced in December. The company said the increases, which apply to cars only, were made necessary by sharply higher steel prices.

AUSTRALIA

Australian iron ore suppliers and Japanese steel mills have agreed to a further price rise of about 17 per cent for shipments to Tokyo. The Australian firms are seeking their government's approval.

SAUDI ARABIA

Petrokem, the Arabian petrochemical company, has signed contracts for the construction and overall management and engineering procurement of a chemical complex valued at more than \$9m (about £4.89m).

ARAB EMIRATES

A natural gas supply network for domestic and commercial consumers in the Emirates of Sharjah on the Gulf will be completed by early 1983.

NIGERIA

A contract valued at more than £8m for the design, supply and commissioning of a water injection system for the Meren offshore oilfield in Nigeria has been awarded to Weir Westgarth of Glasgow. Part of the contract will be for pumps valued at about £4m to manufactured in Glasgow by Weir Pumps.

Base Lending Rates

| | |
|-------------------|-----|
| ABN Bank | 13½ |
| Barclays | 13½ |
| BCCI | 13½ |
| Consolidated Crds | 13½ |
| C. Hoare & Co | 13½ |
| Lloyds Bank | 13½ |
| Midland Bank | 13½ |
| Nat Westminster | 13½ |
| TSB | 13½ |
| Williams & Glyn's | 13½ |

* 7 day overdraft rate 16½ per cent
* 12 month overdraft rate 16½ per cent
* 250,000 and over 11 per cent

BIDS AND DEALS

Royal Stafford China, the privately owned vitrified ceramics and bone china manufacturer, has been returned to profitability in its first year of trading — since a consortium of businessmen acquired the now merged and streamlined 150-year-old companies, Royal Stafford Bone China and previously quoted, John Maddock, from receivers Peal Marwick.

Comfort Hotels International reports that contracts have been exchanged for the disposal of the Heathrow Ambassador Hotel to Mr N. G. Verani, of the Verani Group UK for £1.33m cash.

Pegler-Hatterley announces the acquisition of the whole of the issued share capital of PVF, a private company based in Louisiana. PVF, established in 1966, distributes pipe valves and fittings to the oil and petrochemical industries, primarily in the Gulf coast area of the United States.

Hardanger Properties through a leading development site in Oxford Street, Kidderminster, Worcester-shire comprising 13.8 acres. The second deal which has just been concluded, is acquisition of the EMI Cinema for about £300,000. This site joins a property already owned by Hardanger on which there is planning consent.

OVERSEAS COMPANIES

Brunswick Oil, the Australian exploration group, which had to abandon an earlier rights issue because of the fall in the Australian share market, is coming back with a new cash call on the shareholders. It is now to offer three shares for two at 20 cents plus options (priced at one cent) to subscribe for more shares at 20 cents by June next year. The initial offer will, if successful, bring in more than A\$4.5m (£2.60m) with another A\$4.5m later if the options are exercised. The cash is wanted mainly to see Brunswick through its share of joint drilling programmes which, savings nine drills this year and 22 next year.

Eso S.A.F., the French subsidiary of the United States Exxon group, announced a net income of FF242m (£21.41m) for 1981, down from FF265m for 1980. The French unit's board is proposing an unchanged net dividend of FF20 per share.

Group turnover for the Rheinisch-Westfälische Elektrizitätswerk rose 13.7 per cent to DM11,210m (£2,582.3) in the first six months of the fiscal year started July 1, 1981. The West German power company said that a substantial share of the sales rise was traceable to price increases. The group generated 2.7 per cent more power in the first six months from the like year-earlier period.

Four leading Spanish commercial banks, Hispano Americano, Bilbao, Vizcaya and Central have submitted offers for a nearly 50 per cent shareholding in the industrial bank, Banco Union, Hispano Americano and Bilbao have made the most complete offers. They are now being studied by the Bank of Spain which has to approve any purchase.

WALL STREET

Because of the switch to British summer time we are unable to publish Wall Street closing prices in this edition. The service will resume tomorrow.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB

Telephone 01-621-1244

The Over-the-Counter Market

| 1981/82 | Uth | Low | Company | Price | Ch'ge | Div (%) | Yld (%) | Actual | Target |
|---------|-----|-----|--------------------|-------|-------|---------|---------|--------|--------|
| 129 | 100 | | Ass Brit Ind CUS | 128 | -1 | 10.0 | 7.8 | 128 | 128 |
| 75 | 62 | | Airsprung Group | 23 | - | 4.2 | 6.4 | 11.6 | 16 |
| 51 | 33 | | Armstrong & Rhodes | 45 | - | 4.3 | 9.6 | 3.8 | 8 |
| 205 | 187 | | Bardon Hill | 198 | - | 9.7 | 4.8 | 9.6 | 152 |
| 107 | 100 | | CCL 11% Conv Pref | 107 | - | 15.7 | 14.7 | - | - |
| 104 | 63 | | Deborah Services | 63 | - | 6.0 | 9.5 | 3.1 | 4.9 |
| 131 | 97 | | Frank Horsell | 126 | - | 6.4 | 5.1 | 14.4 | 233 |
| 83 | 39 | | Frederick Parker | 77 | -1 | 6.4 | 8.3 | 3.9 | 7.8 |
| 78 | 46 | | George Blair | 53 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 102 | 93 | | Ind Free Castings | 96 | -1 | 7.3 | 7.6 | 6.9 | 10.6 |
| 109 | 100 | | Isis Conv Pref | 108 | - | 15.7 | 14.5 | - | - |
| 113 | 94 | | Jackson Group | 97 | - | 7.0 | 7.2 | 3.1 | 6.8 |
| 130 | 108 | | James Barrough | 116 | - | 8.7 | 7.5 | 8.5 | 188 |
| 334 | 248 | | Robert Jenkins | 248 | -2 | 37.3 | 72.8 | 24 | 108 |
| 64 | 51 | | Scruttons "A" | 64 | - | 5.3 | 8.3 | 9.8 | 21 |
| 222 | 159 | | Torday & Carlisle | 159 | - | 10.7 | 6.7 | 5.1 | 102 |
| 15 | 10 | | Twinlock Ord | 14 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 80 | 66 | | Twinlock 15% ULS | 79 | - | 15.0 | 18.9 | - | - |
| 44 | 25 | | Unilock Holdings | 25 | - | 3.0 | 12.8 | 4.5 | 10 |
| 103 | 73 | | Walter Alexander | 79 | - | 6.4 | 8.1 | 5.2 | 10 |
| 263 | 212 | | W. S. Yeates | 231 | - | 14.5 | 6.3 | 6.0 | 100 |

Prices now available on Prestel page 48148

How Pilkington took the wood out of woodwind

Amazing stuff, glass fibre.

For almost 40 years, Pilkington — one of the world's most experienced glass manufacturers — has been devising new uses for this versatile, strong material.

We are accustomed to its use for reinforcing cement, car engine components, skis, and even in the building of full-scale warships.

But — woodwind?

Well, it's simply that a Pilkington glass fibre has been able to help Boosey & Hawkes (who are to musical instruments what Pilkington is to glass) come up with an advanced glass/nylon composite as an alternative to the hard-to-work African blackwood used in clarinets.

The result?

An instrument with improved dimensional stability and a tone that has won the approval of professional musicians; a sensibly-priced clarinet that's going to bring enjoyment to thousands of young players (perhaps a trifle less to their parents) all over the world.

All over the world, in fact, is where you'll find Pilkington products and expertise these days.

With our widespread overseas base and an aggressive export drive, over two-thirds of the Group's 1981 sales were made outside the United Kingdom.

Which, in these economically turbulent times, should be music to your ears.



PILKINGTON



Enterprise at work. Worldwide

BARCLAYS 1981

Operating in more than 80 countries.

The Annual General Meeting of Barclays Bank PLC will be held in London on April 28th 1982. The following are extracts from the Address to the Stockholders by the Chairman, Timothy Bevan, for the year 1981.

I must start this report by paying tribute to my predecessor, Sir Anthony Luke. He would, I know, be averse to my saying much, but it is a fact that under his tolerant but effective and energetic leadership the Group's Balance Sheet totals grew from £12 billion when he assumed the Chairmanship in 1973 to more than three times that figure in 1981 and in the same period we opened offices in a further 28 countries. His interest in people and places was much appreciated throughout the Group and has contributed to bringing the different arms closer together. We wish him well in his new responsibilities and I am glad that he is remaining a Director, so that his advice and help will continue to be available to us.

The Barclays Group

The Barclays Group has now become a large organisation by any standard. Each working day the Group increases its number of accounts of all kinds by around 5,500 and although banking is, and for the foreseeable future will remain, labour intensive, we can only cope with this welcome burden by extensive use of today's technology.

At present we look after depositors' money denominated in 66 currencies of the equivalent of £43 billion or \$82 billion and our business is far from being restricted to traditional banking services.

In the United Kingdom, the bank and its subsidiaries have 76,000 staff on the payroll, of whom 63% are women, and some 3,200 offices in all. Abroad, Barclays Bank International with its subsidiary and associated companies has offices in over 80 countries—soon to increase further as we have just been granted a licence in Colombia. In all these countries—more than half of which are classified by international organisations as "developing"—a total of 54,000 people are employed in over 2,100 offices.

We continue to develop and to expand; we are increasing our presence in the Far East and have opened a Representative Office in Beijing, formerly called Peking. In the United States we have recently agreed, subject to the approval of the regulatory authorities, to acquire Bankers Trust Company of Hudson Valley NA in New York State with 26 branches. In all, we now have nearly 8,000 on the payroll in the United States and gross total assets of over \$10 billion. We are so glad to have acquired 85-31% of the Banco de Valladolid in Spain, particularly as Spain is negotiating to join the EEC.

In March 1981 we became the first foreign bank to file with the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington and thereafter to raise public quoted debt on the New York market. We saw this as a means of broadening the scope of our ability to raise money as part of our capital resources and as a means of strengthening our presence in the USA.

Performance

The profit for the year of £567 million is about 8% higher than in 1980, an increase that is less than the average inflation rate of 12% for 1981. This profit had to bear, after tax, the so-called "windfall" profits levy imposed on the banks, which in our case amounted to £94.1 million. After all deductions the profit attributable to the stockholders of the Bank came to £337 million, a fall of about 3% on the figure for 1980.

But for the "windfall" levy, net earnings of £431 million would have represented some 20% of average stockholders' funds in 1981, against 18.5% in the previous year. Considering that interest rates in the UK fell somewhat in 1981 this is not an unsatisfactory outcome.

Substantial growth took place in 1981, which has naturally brought downward pressure on our capital ratios. This increase in liabilities, coupled with further projected growth in the UK, expansion overseas and an extensive programme of capital expenditure in branch premises and new technology, caused us to decide to increase our capital to ensure that we retained a comfortable capital position. Accordingly, in February 1982 we raised £100 million by a placing of 16% Unsecured Capital Loan Stock 2002/07, a sum which will, of course, support liabilities a number of times greater.

In the United Kingdom our bad debt experience has been better than we might have expected, given the depth of the recession. By normal standards, much of manufacturing and service industry is over-extended and for many a crisis has been averted only by action to cut costs and improve productivity; an up-turn in demand would avoid further deterioration. Barclays International has experienced an increase in specific provisions raised reflecting the impact of the world recession on borrowers in many of the countries where we operate. The substantial growth in Barclays International's balance sheet has also resulted in an increase in general provisions in line with the Bank's prudential policy.

It is difficult to relate our results to those of the bank abroad owing to the problems of comparison. For instance, on the Continent profit is often structured making undisclosed transfers to inner reserves, which has the effect of understating theirs or increasing ours, depending on the way you look at it. Compared with American banks, a difference is the fact that banks there provide for deferred tax, but in the United Kingdom, under the standards of the accounting profession, most of such tax is not provided. In round figures, our post tax profit of £461 million would decline to £310 million if the sums were done in the same way as in the United States.

Also, in some countries the practice of making medium term loans and investments at fixed rates of interest plays a larger part than in Britain; and this, too, has been expensive to those banks in a period of high rates. The contrary is, of course, true in periods of low interest rates. For all such reasons it is probably misleading to make international comparisons of bank profitability over a relatively short period of time.

Differences in inflation rates must also be taken into account. It should be remembered that our historic pre-tax profit of £567 million is reduced to £345 million by the convention of current cost accounting. The convention does result in a figure which makes allowances for the ravages of inflation, even though it is not a completely satisfactory answer as the tax charge does not take account of inflation.

Again, it is often alleged that banks welcome high interest rates. This is not so. What we do enjoy is our customers' prosperity, and high interest rates do nothing to support that cause.

That being said, it is true that non-interest bearing cheque accounts are more valuable at times of high rates. But the costs of running these accounts are high—in the UK, the massive computerisation, it still costs over 20p to clear a cheque and our customers last year drew an average of 594 million of them.

United Kingdom

Much emphasis has been placed on a restricted measure of monetary growth, sterling M3, and this has been affected by the expansion of bank lending to the personal sector, especially for housing. In my view the bulk of this increase represents a rise in the market share of the banks at the expense of other lenders—and to the benefit of borrowers. The flatness of house prices and of consumer spending generally in 1981 suggests that there has been no undue expansion in credit in this field. Indeed, there are those who argue that monetary policy has been much tighter than the growth of sterling M3 would suggest.

Certainly, in circumstances in which the banks are raising their market share relative to that of other lenders, such as the building societies, sterling M3 is less significant than the measures of monetary growth, which include building society as well as bank deposits and which have been rising less rapidly.

It should also be emphasised that the course of bank lending to the personal sector has been greatly distorted by Government controls. The recent expansion in personal sector lending stems from the removal of the "corset" in the summer of 1980, and lending that would have grown slowly over the years has been concentrated into a relatively short period, as is usually the case when official restrictions are removed.

British banks have also been said to have been lending too much to the personal sector at the expense of industry. But we have been well able to meet industry's demand and expect to be able to continue

to do so. Additionally, the level of bank lending to the personal sector, contrary to the views of our critics, does not seem particularly excessive by the standards of other countries. In 1981 some 14% of total outstanding sterling advances of banks in the UK, including mortgages, were to consumers. In Japan the comparable figure was in the region of 11% and in the USA it was about 19%.

Looking at our industrial lending, 1981 was a difficult year as we endeavoured both to keep afloat those customers who were in danger of being swamped by the recession, and to encourage new business and employment. We have tried to alleviate our customers' problems by a sympathetic and understanding approach, often by lending over and beyond what would until recently have been regarded as normal. Several hundred million pounds have been advanced in this way to those who can, we believe, use the funds to survive the recession.

We have continued to develop our services to the corporate market in the United Kingdom. We now lend over £6 billion to the manufacturing, production and services sectors. A growing proportion of our advances are medium term or even longer and, excluding our leasing operations, we have some £1.7 billion out on terms exceeding five years.

This year small businesses have again been under the microscope. Much has been done to improve their lot, and in view of this interest I set out below some of the special services we offer:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Business Advisory Service | — Providing free advice and assistance and used by 2,150 small firms in 1981. |
| Business Start Loans and | — On specially favourable terms to assist with the development of new products and services or the acquisition of property and machinery. |
| Business Expansion Loans | — Available through our Merchant Bank to selected customers. |
| Equity Participation | — To which we have committed £6.5 million in sites as far apart as London's Docklands and Washington New Town. |
| Financing of small factory units | — To advise and train those attending these Centres who wish to start up on their own. |
| Attachment of managers to Business Promotion Centres | |

On top of these, there is now the Government Small Firms' Loan Guarantee Scheme. We had lent £18.1 million under it by December 1981, but this is a small figure compared with the several hundred million pounds of fresh money we lend every year to smaller businesses.

International

Overseas, the general picture is not dissimilar to that in the United Kingdom. The recession has affected almost all the world and the developing countries are having a hard time with less demand from the industrial parts of the world for their primary products. In addition, they are still trying to cope with the effects of the 1979 oil price rise—the cost of this increase alone to the non-oil producing developing countries in 1980 was more than the direct aid they received from the countries of the OECD.

The recycling of OPEC surpluses has continued to occupy the attention of the international banking system. Immediately after the oil price shocks of 1974 and 1979, it was doubted whether the banking system would be able to recycle the surpluses of the oil producing countries to those less fortunately placed, but in fact the system has stood the strain. The dramatic increase in deposits, however, particularly in Eurocurrencies, is putting pressure on the capital ratios of the banks concerned, and of course there is the difficulty of finding potentially safe and prudent outlets for the funds.

As I write, the sad events in Poland are much in the news and so, too, is the question of the risk incurred by banks in lending to sovereign borrowers. It is important to put this question into context. There are good reasons why banks should wish to lend to governments, private corporations and banks in other countries, in the same way as they do to any other customer. In some cases we have relationships going back over many years involving trade finance. Often, too, lendings have resulted from the support of major export projects, whether from the United Kingdom or other countries in which we operate.

The finance required for major projects has also become larger—for instance equipping an airline with a new jumbo jet and its spares costs £45 million and the 250,000-ton tankers now in service cost some £40 million to build. However, it is clear that the world is becoming a riskier place in which to lend and it is more than ever important that the banks maintain traditional habits of careful evaluation of risk and remember the basic principle that risks should be spread. There is the continuing need, too, for bankers not to be dazzled by size and prestige.

Having said that, I think we need to be careful not to become over-pessimistic about the periodic need for countries or corporations to reschedule their debts.

The European Economic Community

Although there is some unhappiness in Britain about the EEC—an example near to home on a minor bureaucratic matter is the necessity for your Bank to change its name, from Barclays Bank Limited to Barclays Bank PLC, to comply with EEC regulations at a cost of around £500,000—the fundamental logic of the Community remains.

For many reasons it would be folly for the United Kingdom to think of withdrawing. Overseas trade has, for generations, been at the heart of Britain's prosperity with exports in 1980 accounting for 28% of what we produced compared with 10% and 15% for the USA and Japan. Of our exports, nearly half were to fellow members of the European Community with whom we ran a trade surplus of £700 million.

Our previous trade with our Commonwealth partners has diminished in importance to both ourselves and them, with our exports to the Commonwealth accounting for only 13% of our total in 1980 compared with almost 50% only twenty-five years ago. Our job is now to build on the new framework that is being developed, not to try and return to a previous structure that in fact no longer exists and is beyond recall.

Finally, our most important asset—the staff of the Barclays Group. During the months before I assumed the Chairmanship, and since, I have made many visits in this country and overseas. Everywhere I have been, the chief characteristics are the friendliness and great enthusiasm of all. Stockholders are fortunate to have such men and women of all races and creeds working to further the interests of the Barclays Group.

Timothy Bevan

Timothy Bevan, Chairman of Barclays Bank PLC.

The Barclays Bank Report and Accounts gives a comprehensive review of the Group's activities in the UK and around the world. To obtain a copy, just send this coupon to the address below.

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BUSINESS
ELL'S
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BELL'S

Stock Exchange Prices

Lack of interest

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 29. Dealings End, April 15. Contango Day, April 19. Settlement Day, April 26.

[illegible]



INTERNATIONAL

JAPAN

Japan's exports of cars and buses fell by 10 per cent in February from the same month last year, continuing a persistent downward trend in the face of overseas economic stagnation.

THAILAND

The Thai Government has announced a 10 per cent increase in the price of rice, which is a staple food for the Thai people.

NEW ZEALAND

The New Zealand Government has announced a 10 per cent increase in the price of milk, which is a staple food for the New Zealand people.

ORWAY

The Orway Government has announced a 10 per cent increase in the price of fish, which is a staple food for the Orway people.

EST GERMANY

The East German Government has announced a 10 per cent increase in the price of meat, which is a staple food for the East German people.

AUSTRALIA

The Australian Government has announced a 10 per cent increase in the price of wool, which is a staple food for the Australian people.

UD ARABIA

The U.A.R. Government has announced a 10 per cent increase in the price of cotton, which is a staple food for the U.A.R. people.

AB EMIRATES

The A.E. Government has announced a 10 per cent increase in the price of oil, which is a staple food for the A.E. people.

PERIA

The Peria Government has announced a 10 per cent increase in the price of sugar, which is a staple food for the Peria people.

SPORT

RUGBY UNION
World cup plan faces two stumbling blocks

By David Hands
Road and Murrayfield, with details of an ambitious plan for a World Cup in Rugby Union, announced in London yesterday without its proponents able to offer positive answers to the two main stumbling blocks: the initial acquiescence of the International Board, and the proposal and the involvement of South Africa which, in the event of the IB ever sanctioning the plan, would be a major stumbling block.

Gosforth backs in England tour

By David Hands
England will take a party as far as possible to North America and Canada in May and June, among them six capped players. A squad of 25 players, including the England tour in Argentina last summer.

Sevens hit preconceptions for six

By Peter West, Rugby Correspondent, Hongkong, March 29
Hongkong, March 29. — Sevens players and wide have long contemplated the prospect of a World Cup rugby competition. If the latest ideas for one are to be realised, it will first need the approval of the International Board, which has been consistently opposed to the concept.

Boxing
When your inward eye is cut

By Srikanth Sen
Boxing Correspondent
Boxing is a great test to be sure. But it yet has to do a satisfactory job on the mental and physical scars of boxing. Ask anyone except Ali, Frazier, Foreman, Norcia, Conteh, all the way down to Duran, Stacey, Green and Marquardt.

Ice-hockey
Billingham hopes go crashing

By Robert Pryce
Billingham Bombers' challenge for the English National League title ends in a dramatic defeat at Durham over the weekend. Four of their players finished in hospital and the game ended in a 5-5 draw.

Back injury forces Hunt to scratch from Open

By Rex Bellamy
The men's final of the British open championships, sponsored by Audi Car at Bromley, will not be held on Sunday as a result of a back injury suffered by the defending champion, Geoff Hunt.

Football
St Etienne inspired by return of Platini

St Etienne shook off their recent indifferent form to knock Bordeaux off the top of the French first division. The reigning champions, with only 10 wins, trounced the leaders 5-0 to go second, one point behind Monaco, who beat 10-0 against Metz.

FOOTBALL
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Uncertainty ended for Steve Kember

Steve Kember has been offered a three-year contract as manager of Crystal Palace only days after it seemed he would be dismissed. Mr Kember has been caretaker manager since the departure of Alan Mullery.

Old wine in new bottle

The successful award scheme introduced by The Sunday Times in 1977 has been taken over by Coca-Cola Bottles, Peter Ackroyd writes. For the last five years Coca-Cola has sponsored an international held every December at Wembley.

Today's fixtures

Table with 2 columns: Fixture, Result. Rows include: Arsenal v Liverpool, Tottenham v Manchester City, Chelsea v Aston Villa, etc.

Cricket
Rebels are winners in SA, losers elsewhere

Joe Pakenham, president of the South African Cricket Board, yesterday said that the English rebels who have damaged the country's chances of returning to the international cricket scene.

First win for Sri Lanka

Lahore, Pakistan, March 29. — Sri Lanka gained the first victory of their six-match tour of Pakistan when they beat the hosts by 100 runs in a one-day challenge.

Rackets
Tonbridge sight treble

Tonbridge are in sight of a treble in the schools championships at Queen's Club, Roy McKivett writes. Yesterday they landed the colts championship and today they contest two finals, the senior championship, and the Professionals Cup for second place.

YACHTING
Round world record for Dutchman

The Flying Dutchman Cornelis van Rietschoten and his international crew aboard their 70ft yacht 'Flyer' crossed the Portsmouth finish line at the end of the Whitbread Round the World race after yesterday morning to set a record time for the voyage.

Mercy girl shows the way

Sarah Parker stopped off in West Berlin on a mercy mission to Poland and won the women's modern pentathlon international there at the weekend. Michael Coleman wrote the second place in the final of the £300,000 indoor circuit championship in New York on Sunday.

Bowls
Holders stay on course


The Hartlepool team who won the four event in last year's English Indoor Bowling championships, progressed to the second round when this year's championships, sponsored by Lombard North Central, began at Rugby yesterday, Gordon Allen writes.

Tennis
Finest hour for Miss Hanika

Miss Hanika, of West Germany, is the most successful women's tennis player in recent years when she beat Martina Navratilova 6-3, 6-4 in the final of the £300,000 indoor circuit championship in New York on Sunday.

FOR THE RECORD

Table with multiple columns: Sport, Name, Result. Rows include: Football, Cricket, Rugby, etc.



From March 28th, virtually all Air France flights to and from Paris will be using the new Charles de Gaulle Terminal 2.

The 'Express Terminal', we call it.

Express because it's only 77 yards from the aircraft to the exit - one of the shortest walk-throughs in the world.

Express because your luggage is...


delivered via a simplified direct delivery service.

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wide destinations.

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